



**Centre for Women's Development Studies**  
**25 Bhai Vir Singh Marg (Gole Market)**  
**New Delhi - 110 001**

# **Annual Report**

## **2013-14**



# CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

## Annual Report 2013-2014



**25, Bhai Vir Singh Marg ( Gole Market)**

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## From the Director's Desk

*It gives me great pleasure to place the Annual Report of the CWDS for 2013-14 before you all.*

*CWDS has a long history of engagement with social science research from a gender perspective. Our Faculty members continue to undertake research which tracks social development and changes from a range of disciplinary locations. This involves discussion with many different partners to understand what meaning these processes have in the lives of women and the people in general. The CWDS Library provides services which help us to keep pace with new sources of information. The combined efforts of the Faculty, Library and staff ensure that we meet our objectives. Every phase poses new challenges for social science research and institutions need to think afresh in changing contexts. I seek your continued support to strengthen our research initiatives and interventions to help the Centre move ahead in the coming years.*

***Indu Agnihotri***  
*Director*

## In Memoriam

Dr. Hemlata Swarup  
(1929-2013)



Dr. Hemlata Swarup, former Vice Chancellor of Kanpur University, member CWDS and founder member, IAWS, passed away after a prolonged illness on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September, 2013 in Kanpur. Born in 1929 in Bijnor, Dr. Swarup pursued higher education in Banaras Hindu University, where she studied both Literature and Political Science. These were the years of the anti-imperialist struggle gathering momentum and as a student drawn to political activism she became a leading office bearer of the BHU Students' Union. She pursued her doctoral research on the writings of Mulk Raj Anand. Dr. Swarup was first influenced by Mahatma Gandhi, but subsequently joined the Communist Party of India. Defying caste norms Hemlata Swarup married Dr. Harswarup Lallak, a medical doctor. She actively pushed the agenda of social change through her public activities and was keen to promote education, which she hoped would bring about change in favour of women's rights and progressive cultural values, especially amongst the youth. She pursued the agenda of social change through her public life and involvements. Dr. Hemlata Swarup sought to advance critical thought and progressive cultural values, through the institutions she was associated with throughout her life.

Dr. Vasudha Dhagamwar  
(1940 -2014)



Vasudha Dhagamwar, legal activist and academician, passed away in Pune on February 10, 2014. She was 74. She had been ill for the last few years. Vasudha Dhagamwar was born to Geeta Sane, a writer and Narasimha Dhagamwar, a lawyer who was active in the Indian freedom movement. Vasudha had a large circle of friends.

Vasudha Dhagamwar had set up Multiple Action Research Group (MARG) in 1985 to advance peoples' rights through legal advocacy. In 2007 she shifted base from Delhi to Pune. She was one of the signatories to the famous Open Letter written to the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of India, with regard to the acquittal of the accused in the Mathura rape case in 1979, the others being Profs. Lotika Sarkar, Upendra Baxi and Raghunath Kelkar. The Open Letter forced the judiciary to have a fresh look at the subject of custodial rape in India and became a rallying point for a campaign on the issue of gender-based violence in the 1980s.

Vasudha Dhagamwar had been a member of the legal experts committee of the National Commission for Women and was also a member of the Executive Body of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative. She had many publications to her name. Some of these being Criminal Justice or Chaos, 1997, Industrial Development and Displacement – The People of Korba, 2003; Role and Image of Law in India – The Tribal Experience, 2006 amongst others.

## Introduction

The CWDS is now in the 35<sup>th</sup> year of its existence as a premier Institute engaged in research with a focus on Women and Development. Its inception, at a time when both Women and Development were the focus of debates emanating from Third World locations, marked a particular moment in the history of international politics. In contrast, the context in which we undertake our research and activities today is different. This can be seen with reference to the society we seek to analyse, the lives of those who are often the subject of our study. The location of social science research and its linkages with the policy making institutions is also undergoing vast changes.

Over the years, the ICSSR, which at present provides the mainstay of our financial support, has tried to keep abreast of changes in approaches to social science research at the global level. It has also tried to involve research institutions, such as ours, in this collective engagement and interface in order to facilitate a dialogue between concerns emerging at the international level, particularly in South and South East Asia so as to provide a platform for collective reflection amongst scholars in this region. As we draw up our plans for research and activities in the coming year, we need to be sensitive to this changed environment which at once offers possibilities as well as challenges at multiple levels.

Our work today involves research, teaching and a range of related activities. The teaching programme has ensured that the Centre enters into new partnerships. This provides the Faculty an opportunity to interact regularly with a student community which poses fresh questions, adding an inter-generational dimension to our work. Together with the Library team and the Research Associates who joined us last year CWDS offers a platform for interaction with a vast and growing academic community.

However, as we build new relationships, we need to reflect on the need to carry forward the links established with the women's movements and other organisations over several decades. These have also undergone several changes and are now having to negotiate a vastly different world. Together, we need to reflect on the challenges we face in the present context from our different locations. This also requires finding new ways of dialogue and debate.

This Annual Report provides an overview of work done as well as what is proposed for the next year. It offers an opportunity to reflect on our work and activities, to engage with continuing as well as emerging concerns.



### **Women, Work and the Economy**

The subject of women, work and the economy continues to feature in very specific ways in the Centre's research activities. This involves field-based research as well as enquiry into the conceptual frameworks within which women's work is analysed. The decline in women's work over the last several years emerges as a significant area of research, as also the terms, nature and extent of women's paid and unpaid work. The spatial and social location of women's work is equally an issue. During the last year the CWDS addressed these concerns from several different locations and standpoints and this work is proposed to be carried forward to address new, emerging areas.

- ❖ The study of gender dimensions of the urban labour market, focusing on an investigation of the terms of women's inclusion and exclusion is being taken up as a special thrust area of research under the ICSSR's Sponsored Research Programme.
- ❖ The work on care and care workers continues to be part of our focus areas. A study on wage setting practices for domestic workers which examined minimum wages in six states was completed last year. Apart from studying the processes by which minimum wages are determined, it examined the aspects of implementation and enforcement to identify the gaps and also the forms of organising emerging among domestic workers, given the increasing numbers of women involved in domestic work.
- ❖ Globalisation and its impact on women's work remains a critical area of research; particularly, the deepening of gender based inequality in employment alongside a levelling of social group differentiation among women. This is based on analysis of the recent NSSO data to see shifts, changes and emerging patterns.
- ❖ Work on the IDRC-supported Gender and Migration project, completed in 2012, is being carried forward to prepare a manuscript for publication. Some of the sites have been revisited to update information.

### **Gender and Governance continues to be an important area of research**

The project on Gender and Governance in Situations of Conflict in South Asia, a four country study supported by the IDRC, is now into its third year. This involves primary research, field interviews and preparation of country-level reports. The study addresses the challenge of evolving frameworks to understand how and in what manner women's rights get impacted in conflict zones and the linkages with issues emerging from the larger discourse of democracy and citizenship.



## Gender and Disability

Gender and Disability has in recent years emerged as a crucial area, particularly with reference to the need for inclusive policies, to address social change and development. Even as the debate on the rights of the disabled has gathered force in the public domain, so has the area of Disability Studies in the academy. Going beyond macro-level recognition of disability at the legal and policy levels, scholars have addressed experiences of persons with disability and linked them with debates on the themes of work, sexuality, care and access. Our Faculty are part of ongoing discussions with reference to CEDAW to focus on the multiple vulnerabilities that people with disabilities have to negotiate in their everyday lives.

## Women and Health

This is an important area for both research and discussion on public policy. As the PPP model expanded in coverage, issues of its impact on people's health, the state's commitments to basic health and the linkages with gender bias in public access and availability of services remain. A further issue coming up is the absence of data with regard to people's health.

- ❖ Earlier work on user charges, public health facilities and universal access is being wrapped up to make a publication.
- ❖ The Jeeva study of Indigenous Midwives and traditional birthing practices is now in its last phase. After completion of field research in the four states of Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka and Maharashtra, the rich ethnographic material collected is being analysed and written up.

**Gender and Violence** continues to be a thrust area in our research and activities. This has re-emerged as a major area of negotiation of women's rights, with special reference to safety and security issues. While the Centre continues to pursue the subject through advocacy networks, there is a need to engage with the subject at the level of research. A study of perpetrators of violence is being undertaken within a larger context of analysing trends emerging from crime data for Delhi. This will also examine the subject of the involvement of 'juveniles', which is presently a matter of intense debate.

**The Child and the Missing Girl Child** continue to be areas of concern for the Centre. The 2011 data gives cause for greater concern and there is a need to analyse the emerging trends, particularly at the state level.

- ❖ Work on aspects related to adverse child sex ratios was continued during the year. UN Women and UNFPA have agreed to sponsor further research on the subject. This involves analysis of state level data and also identification of trends and practices which fuel adverse sex ratios.
- ❖ CWDS continues to host the secretariat of the FORCES network at the national level. On completion of the five-year term, this has been extended. During the tenure of FORCES Secretariat in the Centre, several studies have been undertaken to understand the broader ramifications of child care. These include a study on the working of the childcare provisions in NREGA, needs assessment for child care in different segments of society, especially in view of the changes being brought about with regard to the ZCDS Programme, now being planned in a Mission mode. It is proposed to study this in conjunction with the Panchayati Raj institutions, in view of their envisaged role with regard to the revamped Anganwadi system.

### **Teaching Women's Studies**

- ❖ The M.phil./Ph.D Programme in Women's and Gender Studies, undertaken in collaboration with Ambedkar University Delhi, completed two years in mid- 2014, and the third batch of students has taken admission in July. The Centre's Faculty is involved in regular collaborative teaching as well as supervision at both, M.Phil and Ph.D level. Financial support is also provided by CWDS to students drawn from socially marginalised sections.
- ❖ Beginning last year, the Centre is also awarding ICSSR Research Fellowships to students enrolled for Ph.D, through a national level selection process. Centre's Faculty advise the students in their respective research areas.
- ❖ The Centre continues to run short thematic courses with a focus on Research Methodology with different target groups as participants in each round. In 2013-14, a Research Methodology Workshop to cater to primarily Hindi medium students was conducted in collaboration with the Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Mahavidyalay, Wardha.

### **Action Research**

The CWDS' work under the Action Research Programme in West Bengal continues, with field based activities in Bankura, Purulia and Medinipur. This entails working with women from the tribal and marginalised communities. There is a marked diversification in the activities undertaken.

## **Advocacy and Networking**

Our engagement with advocacy and networking reflects the challenges posed by the intense public debate generated in the aftermath of the incident of December 2012. While this evoked a strong reaction as reflected in the media, it also brought to the fore the extent of resistance and hostility to the struggle for women's rights and in particular to the recognition of their right to freedom and dignity.

- ❖ Violence continued to be one of the focal points for interaction with women's organisations, given the increase in reported incidents of crimes against women.
- ❖ The library documented incidents of violence and the various reactions to these in print media and on the internet. Our academic staff has participated in consultations around the issue of violence in the larger context of women's rights, law and violence. This includes initiatives taken by the UGC, along with participation in College/University-based discussions on related themes.
- ❖ The Faculty also contribute to policy level debates in the public domain through Membership of various Committees, such as:
  - ♦ The University Grants Commission (UGC) Task Force on Issues of Safety and Freedom of Women and Youth in Universities and Colleges of which Dr. Mary E. John is co-chair.
  - ♦ Task Force on Valuation and Measurement of Women's Unpaid Household Work, Ministry of Women and Child Development, GOI, of which Dr. Neetha N. is a member.
  - ♦ Task Force on Child Labour in Mining and Quarrying Commission on the Protection of Child Rights, GOI, of which Dr. Neetha N. is a member.
  - ♦ Expert Committee on Socio-Economic Caste Census under the Ministry of Rural Development and the Office of the Registrar General of India of which Dr. Indu Agnihotri was a member.
- ❖ The **Indian Association for Women's Studies (IAWS)** secretariat continued to be hosted in CWDS for the third year in view of the General Secretary's location here. The last year saw the Centre's staff being involved in a range of activities associated with the IAWS, including participation, paper presentation in regional workshops and academic and other critical support required for organising the XIV National Conference, held in Guwahati, Assam.
- ❖ National Commission for Women and High Level Committee (HLC) on the Status of Women in India

Members of the Faculty regularly interacted with members of these bodies and participated in consultations and meetings organised by them. These include discussions on various subjects such as the declining Sex Ratios, Verma Committee Report, Dalit Issues, Women's Access to Justice, and on National Machineries.

**CWDS Research Staff** have also participated in:

- ❖ Consultations organised by Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST) as part of their series with Heinrich Boll Foundation (HBF).
- ❖ Discussions on Land Rights organised by *LANDESA* (Rural Development Institute).
- ❖ Seminars and Workshops around issues presented in the Human Development Report, on Social Protection in India, and other related issues, organised by the Institute of Human Development (IHD) and others.

## Organisational Structure

The CWDS is the only ICSSR supported Research Institute with a singular focus on Women and Development. While this, on the one hand, accords a special place to the Centre, it also imposes constraints in a context where both Women and Development are a focus of attention and intense debate from contentious locations in the public discourse. These constraints are at the level of intellectual debate as well as availability of institutional support.

Our Executive Committee, with members drawn from a range of academics and professionals, continues to direct us in the shouldering of this responsibility. The diverse pool of resources it provides continues to be our strength and, adds to the multiplicity of approaches from which the Centre undertakes research. The Faculty and new Research staff, which joined us last year, offers a rich resource to undertake our research-based activities, though the small Faculty strength continues to impose limitations on expansion of the Centre's research and teaching potential.

At the end of March 2014, CWDS had 100 life members (82 women and 18 men) and 4 Institutional members. The General Body met on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2013.

The Executive Committee of the Centre remains as follows, with all members functioning in an honorary capacity:

NAME	TITLE
Dr. Kumud Sharma	Chairperson
Ms. C.P. Sujaya	Vice-Chairperson
Mr. Narayan Banerjee	Treasurer
Ms. Nirmala Buch	Member
Dr. Malavika Karlekar	- Do -
Dr. Vasanthi Raman	- Do -
Prof. Jayati Ghosh	- Do -
Dr. Usha Ramanathan	- Do -
Dr. Mary E. John	-Do -
Prof. Wandana Sonalkar	ICSSR nominee
Dr. Indu Agnihotri	Member-Secretary
Dr. Renu Addlakha	Dy. Director - Invitee

Three meetings of the Executive Committee and one meeting of the Finance Committee were held during the year 2013-14.

### **Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Faculty Committee continues to meet regularly to discuss research plans and activities, though there is scope for improvement in this. Meetings of the core faculty involved in teaching in the M.Phil/Ph.D. Programme continue to be held regularly. Joint meetings with AUD Faculty were continuously held at different stages during the semester to chalk out the academic calendar and ensure smooth running of this institutional collaboration.

Interactions with the ICSSR have increased over the years. This includes participation in discussions with visiting members of social science research councils/bodies from other regions as well as conferences organised by the Council. Over the last year the ICSSR has taken the initiative to formulate a Memorandum of Association between the Council and Research Institutes to formalise the institutional relationship. It has also drawn up a Career Advancement Scheme for Faculty along the lines of the UGC pattern for promotions. The API format has been deliberated upon to accommodate concerns arising out of the fact that for its institutions, such as the CWDS, there is a primary engagement with research along with teaching. These are in the stage of finalisation. In discussions, concerns have been expressed about the varied histories through which institutions came up and how this diversity is to be maintained while bringing them under a common institutional format. The ICSSR has conveyed that it is sensitive to this aspect and shall respect the concerns expressed, even as a formal arrangement is being put in place.

### **Human Resources**

The year saw minor changes in the institutional profile with regard to posts, some have fallen vacant and fresh recruitment delayed. The concerns expressed in successive EC meetings with regard to Reservations have now been addressed through preparation of a Roster for Reservations in Recruitment and Promotions.

At the end of March, 2014 the following was the position: Four Senior Fellows - Gr. I (Professor Grade), two Senior Fellows – Gr. II (Associate Professor Grade), three Junior Fellows (Assistant Professor Grade), six Research Associates and one Data Analyst.

The Library is currently headed by the Assistant Librarian, who is assisted by 4 support staff, while there are 28 members facilitating the activities of the Centre in the Administration, Accounts and Maintenance staff. The Centre is also strengthened by the Editors of the Centre's Journal, Visiting Fellows/Advisors, apart from Life Members and External Collaborators.

**Financial Position**

The Centre today receives its core funding from the MHRD, through the ICSSR. Apart from this it receives project grants. During 2013-14 funds were received from the IDRC, UNFPA, UN Women, Plan India, IFIG, ICHR, CSWB and the All India Poultry Development and Service Pvt. Ltd.

While the Corpus continues to offer a small cushion for periods when grant receipts are low, there is an urgent need to mobilise fresh resources to meet present challenges. While project grants are one way, CSR funding needs to be explored further, especially in view of changes in priorities with respect to funding of social science research. This needs to be actively pursued if we are to maintain even the existing level of research-based activities, leave alone expansion that may be considered. There is an urgent need to build new partnerships.

The Centre had earlier set up two Trusts – The Employees' Provident Fund and a Gratuity Fund. It now has two new separate funds: the Lotika Sarkar Endowment Fund and the Vina Mazumdar Memorial Fund, as discussed in the Annual General Body Meeting last year.



## Research Activities

The research undertaken by CWDS Faculty reflects sensitivity to emerging as well as continuity with pre-existing themes and issues. Understanding and analysing the changing context, form and nature of women's work has been a major focus. The growing violence faced by women, especially in urban contexts, once again emerged as a significant issue over the last year. The attempt has been to incorporate these concerns in our on-going work as well as in planning for new projects. While addressing the new sites of violence, we continue to examine the changing context of declining child sex ratios. Poor social indicators compel us to address issues of gender and health with reference to both access and availability, even as the State's indifferent response to interventions required on child care needs continuous interrogation. Conflict situations point to different kinds of vulnerabilities and research questions.

## **Public Private Partnerships in Indian Healthcare: A Review**

Researcher: Bijoya Roy

Over the past two decades public – private partnerships have been initiated in India for different kind of health-related services ranging from provisioning and financing to information, education and communication. In the process, the public health services have been opened up to the private sector. During this period PPPs have been institutionalised in the health policy arena, gaining permanence through different kinds of programmes. Today, while there is a wide range of literature arguing for the need for PPP, at the same time there are critiques of PPP in the Indian context and evaluations, including of PPP's linkages with present modes of governance with reference to different regions.

The review of the PPP model covers four aspects, with the first section focusing on PPP related policy papers which bear relevance for the health sector; the second examines the different PPP models that are presently being implemented. The third section will review governing and monitoring aspects of PPP and the last will deal with concerns emerging from a gender perspective. A major part of the work of identification of the studies and review has been completed and a draft occasional paper is being finalised.

Field research was undertaken in West Bengal in secondary and tertiary level hospitals in six districts i.e. Howrah, Nadia, North and South 24 Parganas, Hooghly and Kolkata to study the outsourced and high-end diagnostic services in the PPP. The study endeavours to go beyond mere description of these complex processes in West Bengal to examine the effect of contract-based services and PPPs on public hospitals and their users. These will be discussed in terms of their implications for access, cost of care, hospital administration, patients' experiences and nature of private partners involved in these processes. The objectives of the study are to understand the functioning of non-clinical and clinical PPP-based services; identify the challenges in the provisioning of care through PPP and examine the relationship between the state and the private sector; review the existing regulatory and monitoring measures at the state, district and institutional level.

This study was supported by the Council for Social Development, New Delhi and a paper will be contributed to the India Social Development Report 2014.

## **A Developing Story: Gender and Migration in India**

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Research Team: Indrani Mazumdar, N. Neetha, Indu Agnihotri

The proposed book with the above as the tentative title is an outcome of the Gender and Migration project. Work on the manuscript is ongoing.

The introduction outlines the immediate concerns raised by the women's movement in India - regarding the invisibility of the 'armies of women migrating for work', particularly in the context of agrarian crisis in the country. It explains and critique the flaws in official data collection methodologies that have led to effacement of gender in macro-analyses of internal migration in India, and laid out the context for CWDS' primary field surveys. It lays out the typologies of migration that were used, the logic of a special focus on work migration and the categories that were applied, the reasons for collection of wide-ranging data in relation to marriage practices, the methodology followed, and how this intermediate meso-level survey has been able to broaden the scope of generalisation. A second chapter on *Gender, Migration and Development – of dogmas old and new and the impoverishment of theory* will evaluate development discourses on migration in terms of their assumptions regarding development as well as social theory and the role or lack of role ascribed to gender. It engages with anthropological and sociological approaches to migration, including discussions around structure and agency, to argue for a more historicised and adaptive approach to gender, migration and development that reflects the contradictory nature of social realities and developments, the simultaneity of processes of social progress and regress, and the old and new inequalities and hierarchies, in which women's migration is located.

The chapter on *Women's Work, Employment and Migration in 21<sup>st</sup> century India – an analysis of the macro-data* will explicate and analyse gendered trends in work and migration as evident in the official macro-data. It will show enhanced marriage migration rates among women in India and falling female work participation rates, especially in rural areas and provide evidence of a highly gendered employment crisis. New methods of approaching the official data will be outlined to enable a focus on: paid migrant workers; the structure of women's employment which remains agriculture dominated; and a relatively greater proportion of female labour migration remains directed at agriculture; the overwhelming male domination of migrant jobs in industry and services; and the fact that the contemporary agrarian crisis remains central to developments in women's employment and migration.

In a chapter which describes the journey/s – physical, intellectual, methodological – that grounded and shaped the CWDS survey – we traverse *an intermediate terrain, pushing the boundary between macro and micro in migration research* to provide the reader with an interesting travelogue across various states and regions and a view of the diversity of the social

landscape in which women's migration patterns are located. The chapter describes the methods adopted by the surveys – the use of household *and* individual questionnaires, the differences in method of sample selection in village sites, the sector based approach to urban areas and some of the key findings of the survey in relation to types of migration, direction of migration, modes and manner of migration. Another chapter, *In pairs, families and individually: Gendered patterns of labour migration in rural India*, focuses on rural migration. This will discuss regional particularities, the accumulation regimes that have shaped the demand for female labour migrants, labour contracting, advance based tying of labour, socially regressive practices of combining piece rated wages with family labour, combined secondary industrial and primary sector characteristics, colonial style labour arrangements, its links with the construction boom, etc. It analyses the implications of a concentrated shift from other previous occupations (including agriculture) towards brick kilns even as agriculture remains the principal rural destination for women migrants, as also the distinctive phenomenon of defined catchment caste/tribe based communities. In *Cities of autonomy? Migrant women workers in urban India* we look at urban wards migration by women, to understand the sectoral characteristics of more diverse services/ industries where urban migrant women workers are concentrated. Limited diversification combined with a concentrating process towards feminised paid domestic work will be analysed in the context of a discussion about women's autonomy/agency and structural conditioning. It will be argued that the feminisation of some occupations and the absence of any generalised feminisation of labour is linked to ongoing restructuring of social reproduction and status hierarchies. The chapter on *Intersected inequalities: Castes, Classes, Communities and Gender in labour migration* focuses on the differences in the patterns of migration and related labour relations along the axis of caste – with Scheduled Castes/Tribes being concentrated in short term and circular migration – generally involving hard manual labour and degrading conditions of work, and with a higher proportion of them migrating within rural areas. In contrast, upper caste women are more concentrated among urban women migrant workers and in more diversified services/industry. Migrants in paid domestic work will be shown to be an exception to such caste-based differentiation, with gender having emerged as the more significant determinant. The chapter will also discuss the gender and class implications of what appears as an enduring temporariness of transition from peasant/agricultural labour to industrial/service sector worker for many and a continued reliance on the village economy for social reproduction.

### **Of Marriage and Migration: Looking a little further afield**

Consolidated findings in relation to marriage practices, distances, dowry and bride price, and case studies of cross regional marriages have yielded important insights into the varied nature and emerging complexities of marriage migration. They provide several insights into possible reasons for the increase in marriage migration that is so evident in the macro-data. This chapter will take the discussion on increases in marriage migration forward by drawing on the survey

findings/ case studies and arguing for a more holistic analysis of trends in marriage migration, linking marriage practices with developments in the sphere of women's work and its valuation.

### **Citizen Migrants: Law, Policy and migrant women's rights**

This concluding chapter will engage with questions of citizenship, law and policy in relation to migrant women's rights and synthesise some of the main issues and questions that emerged from the study in an integrated framework addressing the rights of women migrants as women, as workers, and as citizens.

## **Delhi - Capturing Women's Lives in a City in Transition**

Project Coordinator: Indu Agnihotri

This project was initiated as a step towards recovering Delhi's past, based on the experiences of women, and to contribute more gendered perspectives to writings on the social history of Delhi, given that the history of Delhi has usually been approached through experiences of the ruling elites, and with reference to its heritage and monuments. The fact that social processes intervene differently in the case of women needed to be focused on. While it is easy to document policy shifts, it is more difficult to capture the dynamics of social interaction, tensions and reciprocities; or, for that matter, the shaping of minds and mentalities in the context of fast-changing city spaces. The need was felt to turn our attention to the part played by different communities and social groups/classes and women's specific experiences in this process of change. There are other questions which arise: how do older residents mix with newer elites, even as fortunes suffer and new foci of power marginalise others/previous elites? Do subaltern forms of consciousness stay alive, or are new ways of interaction, organising and negotiating power worked out?

The project, conceived of as an oral history project based on conversational interactions, with selected individuals, started with a series of conversations, in collaboration with the India International Centre, in July 2013. In the course of the year, a support grant was received from the Indian Council for Historical Research to conduct interviews with selected women, over a period of two years. The interviews were planned with the objective of capturing hitherto undocumented experiences, which are often not in the public domain. The project was planned in the wake of the incident of December 2012 when media discussions highlighted the negative experiences of women's lives in Delhi. It was felt that the construct of the city, its culture, its attitudes to women, needed to take into account diverse experiences with reference to both the changing times as well as spatial and social locations.

The series covered women from diverse spheres and segments of society, including different generations. They were themselves educationists, artists, performers, professionals and the working class or drawn from families engaged in these activities and came from different social groups and communities. A special effort is being made to interview women from the older part of the city and the now urbanised villages, however, some of these women could not be persuaded to participate in the more public events.

The conversations opened up for discussion several themes and issues. Across generations, education emerged as perhaps the single most critical factor which had the largest potential to change women's lives, in both collective as well individual experiences. The narratives were unambiguous on this aspect. Experiences of work and the urge for financial independence raised other questions. The narratives of interaction between communities, the experiences of migrants and the challenges faced by professional women in different fields brought in the dimension of changing aspirations in the context of marketisation and competition, even as male prejudices continued to be reflected in institutional as well as individual responses. The experiences women shared were closely tied to and worked in tandem with the socio-historical changes and could not be seen in isolation from the processes of social development, be these with regard to state, caste, class or other forms of identity within which the women found themselves embedded.

The audience included students, journalists, professionals as well as families of the speakers. The conversations were conducted in an open format with regard to the mode of presentation and language so as to allow speakers to express themselves to draw upon their own vocabularies to articulate their experiences. Eleven public events were held in the series and more interviews are planned. Visual documentation of the series is available and the audio recordings have been transcribed.

Ms. Anshu Singh, Research Associate assisted in the coordination of the series.

### **Globalisation and Women's Work: Disaggregate Analysis of NSSO Data**

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Researcher: Neetha N.

The study analyses the employment pattern of women in the context of structural changes in the economy, through exploration of various rounds of NSS employment and unemployment data. The recent round (68<sup>th</sup> round - 2011-12) of NSS data was analysed both at an aggregate level as well as with reference to social group dimensions. Two papers were presented based on the findings of the study.

This analysis suggests a deepening of gender based inequality in employment. Within the overall trend of gender differences, differentiation across social groups also exists. Notwithstanding all the hype about expanding opportunities for paid employment at the lowest rungs of service sector jobs, the analysis shows that there is a decline in the Work Participation Rate for both paid and unpaid work (PWR and PWPR) for women from marginalised communities even in urban areas. However, over time, there is a tendency of levelling up of social group differentiation among women, though it is not substantial. In contrast to this, gender differentiation does not show any signs of change, which reinforces the fact that gender remains the key challenge to employment issues with regard to women.

### **Minimum Wage Setting Practices in Domestic Work: An Inter-State Analysis**

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Researcher: Neetha N.

This is an ongoing study that was taken up at the behest of ILO's New Delhi Office. The study is a comparative analysis of the states that have notified minimum wages for domestic work. Apart from examining the procedural aspects of fixing minimum wages and an analysis of wage rates, the study also provides insights into the effect of statutory minimum wage interventions in terms of setting a floor wage and improving other conditions of work. Some broad issues of implementation, such as lack of awareness among various stakeholders and specific enforcement issues, were also explored in the study.

The study establishes that the minimum wage for domestic work remains one of the lowest of all other informal sector employment, and is categorised largely as unskilled. Even with such a low statutory minimum wage, there is a gap between minimum wage and market wages, with reports of many violations. Enforcement of the Act, which is largely based on complaints, is found to be poor, with many workers and even union members being ignorant of the various provisions of the Act. However, at the general level, the inclusion of domestic work in the Minimum Wage (MW) Act has certainly changed the perception of domestic work, which is now increasingly being accepted as a form of work in the informal sector.

The study was completed last year and the draft report was submitted. The findings of the study were presented in two workshops organised by ILO in April and July 2013. Based on the comments received during the presentations and also from experts, the draft report was revised and submitted to the ILO for publication.



# CWDS *annual report 2013-14*



## Approaching Data Sources: A Gender Lens

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Researcher: Neetha N.

The importance of gender statistics is now comparatively better acknowledged. However, even the limited data available to study women's issues and gender dynamics is often overlooked and remains under-analysed. Factors which contribute to the under-utilisation of available data include the poor knowledge of data sets, the poor quality of data and unavailability of data on critical variables which would allow for meaningful analysis. Mere knowledge of the sources of data does not result in increased usage or its usefulness and appropriateness for deeper analysis. It is important to know the periodicity of available data sets, the method followed in the collection and the underlying definitions or concepts along with the limitations. All these aspects need to be addressed, if any concrete insights are to emerge from data analysis. An overview of different data sources, alongside providing an outline of the specificities of these, is thus of utmost relevance. However, so far there have been virtually no efforts to collate and disseminate such information in a systematic manner in the public domain, which would also contribute to the better usage of women-related statistics. Such information is vital to enable data collecting agencies, policy-making bodies, decision-makers and activists to take steps to achieve gender equality.

It is against this background that the project envisages a desk review of various sets of data available from different sources. Specifically, it attempts to: (a) make available in one place detailed information on the diverse data sources on women; (b) examine the conceptual and methodological specificities and limitations of each of these data sources and (c) identify key areas for which data is either unavailable or of poor quality.

Given the facts that there are multiple agencies involved in the collection of data on a particular theme and the same data source can provide data on a number of variables, the study adopts a theme-wise approach which would help in comparing the possibilities and limitations of data, across different sources. The major thrust of the study is on available statistics provided by the national statistical sources. The selected themes accordingly are (a) Education; (b) Health; (c) Economic Status (d) Social and Demographic Situation and (e) Violence.

A workshop to get inputs from researchers, activists, representatives of agencies involved in data collection and compilation, and policy makers, was held in April 2014. Another workshop to discuss the objectives and outcome of analysis of the data sources available, specifically also for the set of themes identified is planned for the concluding part.

The project was initiated in November 2013 and is funded by UNFPA.

Prof. Neetha N. is being assisted by Dr. Dimple Teresa, Research Associate in this work.

## **Gender Dimensions of the Urban Labour Market: Investigating the Terms of Women's Inclusion and Exclusion**

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Research Team: Neetha N. and Indrani Mazumdar

A research proposal on 'Gender Dimensions of the Urban Labour Market: Investigating the terms of women's inclusion and exclusion' was submitted to ICSSR under its Multi-disciplinary Research Programme on Urban Labour Markets in India. The study proposes to examine the terms, conditions and factors for women's inclusion/ exclusion in some segments of urban employment in selected cities and towns across five states in the country. These are: NCT Delhi, Uttar Pradesh in the north, Maharashtra in the west, Tamilnadu in the south and West Bengal in the east.

The terms of women's inclusion will be addressed in the specific segments of paid domestic work, manufacturing, construction, education, retail, and other commercial and personal services, through a series of surveys and sectors/segments focused in select locations. The project aims to identify the links between the nature, structure and levels of organisation of select industries/ occupations and their gendered employment patterns and conditions of work. The study will also examine the sector/sub-sector level growth, development and organisational patterns, systems of recruitment, labour processes, conditions of work, accumulation strategies, and any recent changes therein. One of the objectives is to also explore critical factors that have propelled, inhibited, or controlled women's entry into the labour market. This will be done through detailed household surveys across different social classes and groups.

The project has been sanctioned for financial support and the study commences in May, 2014.

## **The Adverse Child Sex Ratio and Sex Selection**

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Researcher: Mary E. John

During the year 2013-14 further work was undertaken in this broad area in response to various requests. An article, 'Before or After Birth? Child Mortality, Sex Selection and the Girl Child,' has been prepared for the Social Development Report 2014. This essay discusses the differential impact of gender-biased infant and child mortality in comparison with the practice of sex selection before birth when disaggregating the ongoing bias in child sex ratios. UN Women made a request in December 2012 to conduct a desk-based review that would provide an in-depth overview of research in the field of sex ratios and sex selection. The report entitled *Researching Sex Ratios*

*and Sex Selection: History, Debates and Future Directions* was completed by mid 2013 and is due to be released in July 2014. A presentation of this draft report was made to the High Level Committee on the Status of Women in India (HLC) in April 2014. There has been a request from the HLC to follow up on this report by way of a study focusing especially on the political economy of planning the sex composition of children. This would focus on families in different regional contexts in the wake of two decades of falling child sex ratios and its visible spread to larger parts of the country as evidenced in Census 2011. Further planning for this project which will be taken forward through a consultation planned for July 2014 with possible support from UN Women and UNFPA.

### **UGC Report 'Saksham: Measures for Ensuring the Safety of Women and Programmes for Gender Sensitisation on Campuses'**

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Researcher: Mary E. John

The Report prepared by the Task Force appointed by the UGC with Prof. Meenakshi Gopinath as chair and Mary John as co-chair was completed in December 2013 and released by the Minister of Human Resource Development in February 2014. The report consists of several chapters concerning the findings of a questionnaire based investigation of colleges and universities, team visits to select universities, the preparation of materials for gender sensitisation in the form of a course module and several workshops, guiding principles for dealing with sexual harassment in universities and colleges, and a set of recommendations. The report can be downloaded from the UGC website.

In order to determine the status of affairs among the universities and colleges under the purview of the UGC, the questionnaire that was sent out elicited about 1,300 responses, and was analysed by the CWDS. Even allowing for the existing skew in the distribution of higher educational institutions across the country, the best represented states were Maharashtra and Karnataka, and the poorest representation by far was from the states of the Northern region. Overall, the findings made it evident that there is widespread denial and confusion over issues pertaining to gender discrimination and sexual harassment on campuses. It became all the more evident that there is an urgent need to provide all institutions under the UGC with clear guidelines for addressing sexual harassment and for suggestions as to how to improve gender equality on their campuses. The Report has made a beginning in this regard. Among the recommendations are the setting up of a gender sensitisation unit within the UGC to act as a nodal division to give effect to the policy of combating gender based violence on campuses; and the preparation of a UGC handbook on sexual harassment and gender sensitisation for all

faculties. All members of higher educational institutions must, according to the findings of the report, undergo processes of gender sensitisation, whether students, faculty, administration or support staff.

### **Book Project: Feminist Trajectories in Time and Space**

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Researcher: Mary E. John

A new book project has been initiated in the field of women's studies and feminism. It seeks to provide a sense of how 'feminism' in India (in its many definitions and loose connotations about women and their rights) acquired its conceptual vocabularies from the nineteenth century to the first decades of the twenty-first. It both contributes to and questions mainstream approaches to the history of thought and the disciplinary genealogies of modern India by tracking the significance of new vocabularies as they took shape around 'women' and their perceived wrongs and rights, beginning in the era of social reform. These concepts effectively preceded the institutionalisation of disciplines such as sociology, economics, or politics during the colonial period, and played a complex role for new movements, like the women's movement in the 1970s, and in the establishment of women's studies. The book is both conceptual and empirical and works by tracking shifts across periods in order to trace the histories of thought around 'women' in relation to the actual working out of leading nodal questions. From the opening chapter onwards the book takes issue with the standard forms that the 'difference' of spaces like India has occupied in much theoretical discussion. The most prominent of these has been the West/non-West dichotomy which has led to various efforts to think authentically outside the West and its categories. Yet another grid has been the universal-particular opposition. Instead, I demonstrate that there is considerable insight to be gained by actually heeding the sets of categories that were set in motion and acquired a certain density and stability over time, whether during the period of social reform, the era of development, or the postnational destabilisations of more recent decades. I believe that this mode of theorising is not only good for India, but also offers fresh ways of thinking comparatively in order to promote South-South and South-North conversations.

The introductory chapter provides a grid for the book as a whole. It introduces the idea of the three epistemes or frames that span the period under investigation –the colonial episteme that takes shape during the nineteenth century and fractures by the 1930s and 40s, the national episteme that is interrogated during the 1960s and 70s by a new generation of activists and scholars, and finally, the post-national episteme that has been gathering force since the 1990s. While the colonial episteme is fundamentally structured around concepts of the social and political, culture and the nation, the key focus for the national episteme is that of development. It is argued that the post-national episteme offers better possibilities for rendering intelligible the

forces both within and beyond the nation that have been directing feminist politics in these last decades rather than other contenders such as globalisation or the postcolonial. This chapter is to be published as an essay in the *Economic and Political Weekly* in May 2014.

## **Multiple Vulnerabilities and Marginal Identities: Exploring Violence in the everyday lives of Women with Disabilities in the City**

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Researcher: Renu Addlakha

This work centres around a book outline titled: *Emerging Identities, Challenging Lives: Configurations of Disability in India*.

It explores the epistemic and ontological status of disability in contemporary India. Since the passage of disability-specific legislation in India such as the PWD Act in 1995 and, more recently, India's signing of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, disability has emerged as a critical category in state and civil society discourses. What does this mean for actual persons with disabilities navigating the social, cultural, economic, and political spheres? More importantly, what does it mean in terms of the more concrete realities of health, mobility, education, employment, sexuality of men and women, as they negotiate with exclusion, stigma and even violence on an everyday basis in a city like Delhi? These are some of the issues that this work engages with, drawing upon a large qualitative data base of over 200 in-depth interviews. The work frames the discussion in the larger context of neo-liberal economics, corporatisation, globalisation and rapid technological innovation.

The introduction presents the central argument and the conceptual and methodological framework. It discusses the emergence of disability as an academic, legal and political category in the West since the 1970s, with particular emphasis on the similarities and distinctions that have configured it in the move from developed to developing societies like India. The intersections with other processes like the United Nation's role and movements such as the women's movement are highlighted. The contemporary status of the disability paradigm is critically assessed. It needs to be reiterated that a gender-sensitive and life cycle lens frames the ethnography in which this work is embedded

The first Chapter profiles a group of young people (both male and female) with disabilities in Delhi from different social, cultural, familial, educational locations. Youth marks the critical transition phase in the life cycle that stabilises personal identity and charts a pathway for the future life course as also the phase of maximum aspiration and optimism before harsh reality sets in. This chapter casts a mirror on how young disabled persons view themselves, their future life projects, their career goals, marital life, parenting roles etc. Their hopes, fears and desires are the starting

point of this work. Chapter II focuses on the Trajectories of Disability, Mobility and the City. Moving beyond spatial exclusion and limitations, it examines both the obstacles to movement confronted by persons with disabilities and how they deal with the challenges posed. The notion of movement is reformulated, to include lifecycle transitions, educational, occupational and social mobility. Concrete life based experiences are juxtaposed with prevailing discussions on accessibility with reference to transport and public spaces which dominate the policy domain.

Not only in India but worldwide persons with disabilities emerge as a sexually disenfranchised segment of the population. There is rejection of normal sexuality in their lives. Stereotypes of asexuality and hypersexuality predominate. How do persons with disabilities construct their sexual identities? In-depth qualitative discussions and case vignettes are used to flesh out these ideas in Chapter III which focused on Disabled Bodies, Sexualised Selves. The insights from feminist disability studies are used to interpret the experiences presented by informants.

A core defining parameter of disability is functional limitation, be it a product of physical/mental impairment or social, economic, cultural and attitudinal barriers or both. The productive capacities of persons with disabilities have been suspect. The state's emphasis on education and employment of disabled persons as a means of empowerment is not unjustified. Chapter IV on Disability and the Question of Work looks at the different issues associated with wage labour raised by men and women with disabilities as aspirants to/participants in the labour force. A new site of labour disability interface is the corporate social responsibility paradigm which is critically evaluated.

Chapter V focuses on the Political economy of disability and Care. From the perspective of the discourse of work, care is intrinsic to disability in that disabled persons require extra social and economic investments. But how do ideas of care configure the disability experience? Do disabled persons look at themselves only as objects of care? What does being cared for and caring for others mean to them? It needs to be noted that disabled persons, particularly women, are also caregivers. This chapter examines the dynamics of care from these multiple perspectives. The analysis is made against the larger background of the transforming ideas of care from the time of India's Independence through an era of socialistic welfarism to the contemporary era of neo-liberal economics.

The conclusion raises issues for future areas for research advocacy and policy intervention.



## **Interrogating Violence against Women from the other Side: An Exploratory Study into the World of Perpetrators**

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Researcher: Renu Addlakha

Today, Violence Against Women (VAW) has emerged as a major discursive, administrative and experiential category. It is operative in the civil society programmes and state-level laws, policies and programmes such as the Domestic Violence Act 2005, the Criminal Law Amendment Bill 2013, National Policy for Empowerment of Women 2001 as also the whole range of executive measures. Violence against women is a key category mediated through international developmental discourses articulated through the United Nations and the global capitalist system as seen in the politically correct Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW 1979). A whole range of funding available from multi-lateral institutions and corporate Foundations for women's upliftment programmes in developing countries, including India seeks to address the issue of VAW. On the other hand, it also emerges as an explanatory variable in women's experiences of violence in the domestic and public spaces as vociferously articulated in local media (particularly electronic media) representations of the issue. For instance, the Nirbhaya Campaign cannot be imagined without the active participation of the media in both highlighting the issue and driving the state's response. More recently, safety audits of various sites in cities and regular reporting of sexual crimes against women have become standard features of newspapers.

The media accounts offer two apparently opposed configurations of the violator. On the one hand, the figure of the perpetrator of such violations is a dim male figure, who embodies the dregs and driftwood of society. On the other hand, perpetrators emerge as well-placed figures appertaining to the wealthy and powerful sections of society whose sexual transgressions are a wider manifestation of their clout in the social system. The December 16 incident exemplifies the former category of perpetrators: delinquent, semi-employed poor alcoholic men who rampage and rape mindlessly. It is averred that society needs to be protected from such nefarious characters and there is a growing clamour for capital punishment in such cases to serve as a deterrent.

The second category of perpetrators occupies the other end of the social spectrum who figure in high profile cases such as Biti Mohanty and Santosh Kumar Singh (of the Priyadarshini Mattoo case) who are sons of high-ranking police officers. Then there is the group of cases involving politicians and their sons like Manu Sharma (Jessica Lall case), Amarmani Tripathi (Madhumita Shikla case), Sushil Sharma (Naina Sawhney Tandoor case) among several others. Another set of violations involve functionaries of the state such as in incidents of custodial rape (the Mathura Case 1972) and the assault on women functionaries doing their assigned work in the face of caste and community opposition (Bhanwari Devi case 1994). In all such cases, caste, class, employment status, rural-urban location and other social inequalities intersect with gender

to generate interpersonal violence in society. In these multiple representations, the figure of the 'perpetrator' swings precariously between the twin and often overlapping poles of psychopathology and criminality.

While there is some literature on women's experiences of violence in domestic and public spaces which can guide intervention strategies, the world of perpetrators remains a largely unexplored domain in the Indian context.

In different parts of the world, particularly in the United States and Europe, there is a growing literature around perpetrators. This is emerging both from the criminal justice system and assisting professions, as also from the academy. It is the purpose of this research to open up this area by focusing on the experiences and voices of perpetrators of violence against women. At the present juncture there is a need for hard research in order to identify the concrete issues to develop advocacy and interventionist approaches to help perpetrators to desist from engaging in violent behaviour. A holistic understanding of why an act of violence is committed, who commits it, and against whom, requires juxtaposing the voices of violators with those of their victims.

It is the purpose of this study to arrive at a more nuanced understanding of perpetrators of crimes against women with a particular focus on the psychosocial, cultural and the political and economic factors that configure their identities and lifeworlds. The study will straddle a wide interdisciplinary terrain, extending from political economy to psychosocial morbidity, to throw light on the factors propelling men to engage in gender-based violence. It is the contention of this research that a truly gender-just society requires that we extend the lens of understanding and application from experiences of those being violated to throw light on the factors that propel a section of men to engage in such violence.

This project has received a two-year grant from the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

Dr. Renu Addlakha will be assisted by Dr. Vijay K. Jha and Dr. Gayatri Panda.

## **Sex Selective Practices and Declining Sex Ratios in India: Interventions and Challenges**

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Researcher: Sabu M. George<sup>a</sup>

Efforts in this year were largely focused around the implementation of the PCPNDT Act. This included intervention as a petitioner in two constitutional courts to protect the gains from the

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<sup>a</sup> Dr. Sabu M. George is Honorary Consultant working on Sex Selective Practices and Declining Sex Ratios in India, affiliated to the CWDS.

previous decade and also brief the concerned Additional Solicitors General on these issues. Some success was attained in the transfer to the Supreme Court of eight cases filed in different High Courts by the Indian Radiology & Imaging Association which challenged the recent changes in the PCPNDT Rules.

Follow up on the study of implementation of PCPNDT Act, undertaken in nine districts of UP during 2012-13, with support from Action Aid, was part of the work done this year. This involved networking with district level authorities, functionaries at the centre and with women's organisations. The reluctance of the Kushinagar District Administration to file cases against thirty clinics which had been shut down was overcome following a meeting with the Union Health Secretary to the Supreme Court in April 2013. This was facilitated by the AIDWA. The total number of cases under the Act nearly doubled to 70+ in the State when these cases were filed in the court of the District First Class Magistrate. The following month, when a clinic owner challenged the closure, the Allahabad High Court gave a seminal judgment.

This was carried forward also through participation in various training workshops, including those organised by Vatsalya for District Judicial Officers, media persons and Chief Medical Officers in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Following advocacy with the Kerala Health Authorities, the first actions under the PCPNDT Act were initiated in December 2013. However, this met with resistance from the Doctor's Associations who lobbied with Union Ministers belonging to Kerala present in New Delhi, to put pressure on the District Medical and Health Officer of the Ernakulam District to not pursue these cases.

The work entailed participation in the regional review meetings organised by Government of India to monitor implementation of the PCPNDT for the South, Central and Eastern Zone States. As a member of the National Inspection and Monitoring Committee of the Health Ministry visits were undertaken to Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand etc.

Field work this year was primarily confined to a few Districts of Kerala to investigate the emergence of sex selection.

To take this work forward the following activities were undertaken: Guest participation in the special Girl Child initiative organised by the NDTV in Mumbai (November 2013); a presentation on emerging trends, with special reference to the North East at the XIV National Conference of the IAWS in Guwahati and discussions with Save the Children on the draft Report on the Girl Child.

## Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones: A South Asian Perspective

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Project Co-ordinator and Researcher: Seema Kazi with  
Regional partners: Amena Mohsin, Bangladesh;  
Malathi De Alwis, Sri Lanka and Saba Gul Khattak, Pakistan

As part of the ongoing CWDS-led IDRC supported study on Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones in South Asia, a post-research workshop involving all partner Principal Researchers and local participants was held in New Delhi in April 2014. Upon conclusion of the meeting, all Principal Researchers mailed their Country Report draft to the Project Leader. These are to be read, edited and finalised by the Project Leader at CWDS and a preliminary draft of the study based on all four Country Reports, a comparative analysis, and a Conclusion for publication is expected to be finalised by March/April 2015. In consultation and collaboration with IDRC an edited manuscript of the research study is slated for publication in 2015.

As part of the research outreach for the above, the Project Leader established an informal collaboration with the Department of Political Science, Kashmir University. During the course of field research, the Project Leader made presentations on the ongoing study to faculty and students at the Department: The first (2013) 'Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones' focused on a summary of the CWDS study and the importance of using gender as a tool to increase public awareness of the nature of conflict and governance practice in conflict zones. The second, entitled 'Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones in South Asia: Using Ethnography as Resistance', focused on the use of ethnography as a methodology of knowledge-creation and resistance to dominant state-centric paradigms. A third talk and discussion around the study's main research finding is slated for October 2014.

The Project Leader, Dr. Seema Kazi and Research Assistant Ayesha Parvez completed a research trip to Imphal. The trip was productive in interviewing victims and civil society group members and forging an informing network with local activists and researchers. A subsequent visit to Imphal is planned for August 2014 with Research Assistant Nima Yolmo who was part of the study for the first year. The remaining interviews of the study are to be completed during this visit.

A women's roundtable involving local researchers and victims from Imphal and Srinagar is planned for 2014-2015 in Delhi, depending upon availability of participants and mutually agreeable dates. Such discussions were envisaged at each research site during the course of field research but considered to be more feasible once data collection was over. It also offers the possibility of participants interacting with a wider audience in a setting free from local constraints.

## **Indigenous Midwives and their Skills in Contributing to the Wellbeing of Birthing Women and Newborns (The 'Jeeva' Project)**

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Principal Investigator: Dr. Mira Sadgopal

Team of Researchers: Mira Sadgopal, Imrana Qadeer, Janet Chawla, Leila Caleb Varkey, Anuradha Singh and Sandhya Gautam

The Jeeva Project is a research initiative of the "Jeeva Collective", a network of persons concerned with strengthening dais and the indigenous midwifery system in India and to help relationship appropriate forge on with the formal health services. The main study is a 3-year multi-centric research project focusing on dais in four remote locations in India (Bokaro district – Jharkhand; Bellary district – Karnataka; Nandurbar district – Maharashtra; and Kangra district - Himachal Pradesh), covering a population of about 10,000 each. During the year JEEVA Research Ethics: Terms of Reference were conceptualised and framed.

During this year the retrospective and prospective births and DAI interviews were completed. In Delhi, the JEEVA team started data editing of Providers' interview schedules and of Retrospective and Prospective birth schedules. Bijoya Roy is involved in this work along with Leila Caleb and Limayangla. Data cleaning for entered data sets was completed. Household data analysis – region wise- has begun Two co-authored papers are planned: one, looking at the relationship of other providers with DAIs and the second focusing on home birthing in remote areas.

The fourth and last Inter-regional Orientation and Review Workshop for field researchers was organised in Delhi on 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2014.

Dr. Bijoya Roy, CWDS, is part of the JEEVA research team

## **In Search of Justice: A Socio-legal Analysis of the Protection of Women Against Domestic Violence Act, 2005**

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Researcher: Shalu Nigam\*

Work on the project 'In Search of Justice: A Socio-legal Analysis of the Protection of Women Against Domestic Violence Act 2005', funded by the ICSSR under the post-doctoral project grants, started in October 2013. The project seeks to understand the challenges women face

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\*Dr. Shalu Nigam's project is funded by the ICSSR under the Post-Doctoral project grants and is affiliated to CWDS.

while filing a case under PWDVA. The study also attempts to analyse the public discourse on the issue of domestic violence and its implications for interventionist strategies, as perceived in the domain of both criminal law and civil remedies. This project explores the question of agency, subjectivities and identity formations through women's narratives and as articulated in the judgments pronounced in the Courts. The study also proposes to analyse the terms of the debate in the public sphere and how these frame the contours of debates on gender relations and equality within the 'personal' sphere.

## Action Research

Over the last few years in the Action Research Programme efforts have once again been made to improve the outreach amongst the marginalised communities in the districts we have been working. Some of the projects initiated, in partnership with the Nari Bikash Sangha, have mobilised both women and men from the tribal communities. At the same time, the changing scenario in rural India, especially with respect to issues of land, highlights the need to think afresh and re-examine our relationship with rural women as well as the organisations with whom we have built sustained partnerships over the last several decades.



## Partnership with Peasant Women and Men in parts of Bankura and Purulia districts, West Bengal

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Project Coordinator – Mr. N.K. Banerjee

(Partners: CWDS Field Staff (Pulok Gupta, Meghnad Deshmukh, Swapan Chowdhury, Bimal Pakhira); Representatives of Nari Bikash Sangha (NBS), Mahila Samitis (MS) and SGSY groups, staff and participating Farmers – (men and women) of Bagicha projects)

CWDS' involvement with the peasant women (and men) of West Bengal entered the 33rd year in 2013-14. The present network of CWDS-NBS consists of 34 Gramin Mahila Sramik Unnayan Samitis, 111 Bagicha Women's groups, 49 Women SHGs, 70 Forest Protection Committees, and 2730 Bagicha(wadi) households.

The work is presently spread across four blocks (Ranibandh, Raipur, Khatra & Hirbandh) of Khatra sub-division in Bankura District and three blocks (Bundwan, Manbazar and Pancha) of Purulia sadar sub-division in Purulia district.

During the year, the following activities were undertaken in partnership with the above networks:

### Tasar Culture

For NBS, the most important land based employment and income generation activities from the very beginning have been tasar culture, babui rope making and collection and processing of minor forest produce. The Mahila Samitis owning Arjun plantation spend a major part of the year for maintenance of tasar host plants (i.e pruning, pollarding, cleaning, disinfection of fields, application of inputs and plant protection and consecutive rearing activities). At present NBS samitis are not only self-sufficient in the commercial production of DFL but also supply these to the tasar farmers of the region.

In Bi-voltine(BV) tasar rearing, two times during the year, three samitis brushed 3200 disease-free-layings (dfis) received from the Central Silk Board(CSB) and produced 58354 seed cocoons worth Rs.114238.00. The entire produce was sold to BSM & TC, CSB. During BV rearing 1881 person days of employment were generated.

In Tri – voltine(TV) tasar rearing, three times during the year, twenty samitis brushed 28980 disease- free- layings (dfis). Out of which 10300 dfis were received from CSB for the 1st & 2nd seed crops and the rest were used from NBS' own grainages during 3rd crop commercial rearing. Through TV rearing, 20 samitis produced 791143 cocoons worth Rs.1291007.00. The entire

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Hatching of Tasar DFLs



Microscopic test of moths for any disease



Drying of Tasar DFLs



A tasar larvae at its 5th stage of growth



A fully formed tasar cocoon



Orientation workshop on tasar culture



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## BANKURA



Bundles of freshly harvested Babui Grass



Babui grass converted to rope



Sal plate making



Supply of goat to samiti members



A child care centre in session



Homage to Vinadi and Lotikadi

seed crop was sold to the CSB, and commercial cocoons were sold to the local Raw Materials Bank (RMB) of West Bengal and to local traders. During TV rearing 13983 person days of employment was generated. Due to the Cyclone effect, commercial cocoon production severely suffered during the year.

*Disease-free Tasar egg production* Seven seed production grainage units of Nari Bikash Sangha processed 257800 cocoons and produced 87285 dfIs. Out of these, 18680 dfIs were used by 10 samitis and the rest were sold to commercial rearers of Bankura, Purulia and West Medinipur districts of West Bengal, and Jharkhand and Orissa. The total cost of dfIs so produced was Rs. 523710.00. During grainage operations 1100 person days of employment was generated.

Thus gross cash income from tasar culture during the year amounted to nearly Rs.1930000.00 and total person days of employment generated from rearing of two species (BV & TV) and from grainage operation amounted to nearly 17000 person days.

### **Babui Culture**

On more than 60 acres of Babui plantation owned by 7 Samitis, 245 quintal of babui grass was produced during the year. The market value of the grass was Rs.192600.00. Those samiti members who are involved in babui rope making collected their annual requirement and the rest was sold in the open market. During the year, those women artisans, who had earlier received training organised by NBS, have started producing babui grass based products.

### **Agriculture**

During the year, NBS disbursed Rs 318000.00 to 230 members of 16 samitis for development of family agriculture i.e. purchase of seed, fertilizer and implements etc. In addition to this, an amount of Rs. 43000.00 was disbursed to 22 members of eight samitis for small business & consumption (i.e. Children's education, House construction, Medical treatment etc.).

### **Bagicha(Wadi) Project**

Four Bagicha (Wadi) Projects, in different phases, are being currently implemented by NBS in three blocks viz. Ranibandh, Raipur and Khatra of Bankura district with the total target of 3000 acres and 3000 tribal households. During the year, 341 new Bagichas were established on 341 acres of land in three blocks through plantation of 14790 Mango and 10230 Cashew grafts, and 59475 forestry plants as boundary plantation. Presently, cultural operation is going on in 2389 Bagichas established in earlier years. Inter cropping has played an important role in Bagichas. During the year, 361 bagicha owners cultivated various seasonal vegetables but more emphasis

was given to two species which are new to the local farmers viz. Turmeric and Elephant foot yam (Madras Oal).

**Production of fruit crops in Bagicha:** This year nearly 2441 quintal of Mango and 15 quintal of Cashew were produced from the matured plants of three projects. The entire production was sold in the local markets in Bankura and in the neighbouring districts by farmers themselves or through NBS and CWDS.

### Activities of Women's Groups

Forty-nine women SHGs formed under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and 111 women's groups formed under Bagicha (Wadi) project are engaged in a variety of activities viz. Goatery, Broiler farming, Banaraj Chicks rearing, Vermi composting, Babui rope making, Salplate making, Kendu leaf collection, Vegetable cultivation, Fruit orchard, Rice processing, Puffed rice making, Mid-day meal cooking etc.

As part of a *Health Awareness Programme*, NBS and CWDS organised 5 Health Awareness programmes and one health check up camp for Samiti and SHG members and followed it up with supply of Water filter, Bleaching powder etc. Over 300 women participated in these programmes.

As part of social *development* activity, six village libraries and eleven crèches for children of ailing and working mothers are functioning on a regular basis. The annual sports event for the crèche mothers and children was also organised.

As for *infrastructure development* activity, construction was undertaken for one new grainage unit, for space augmentation of one grainage unit, and for one training centre-cum-store house.

### Conflict Resolution

During the year, CWDS-NBS were drawn into a number of new cases of conflict, mostly related to land on which tasar plantations and Poultry Farms have been established. Two such cases are being handled by the local police and another case is in the Khatra court.

### Training Programmes

During the year, various training programmes were organised for members of Samitis, SGSY groups, and Bagicha Women's and Farmers groups on tasar rearing and grainage operation, vermiculture, puffed rice making, vegetable cultivation of new crops, Bagicha management, orchard raising, marketing of mango and cashew, etc. A team involved with Bagicha and a



# CWDS *annual report 2013-14*

MIDNAPUR



Arjun plantation raised by samiti member



Construction of grainage house



Packaging of tasar cocoons



Orientation workshop on tasar culture



Goat rearing

# CWDS *annual report 2013-14*



Oil seed cultivation



Cashew plantation raised by samiti godarasta



Vegetable cultivation



Bamboo work



Samiti meeting



Samiti members with University Professor

group of progressive farmers too received training on Soil testing, Bee Keeping, Mushroom cultivation and Bio intensive farming. To acquire new ideas and sharing experiences with other organisation 2/3 groups from CWDS-NBS, Bagicha staff and selected farmers participated in exposure visits to Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Sonamukhi, Gramin Vikash Trust, Purulia and Cashew processing centres at Contai, Purba Medinipur.

## **In Parts of Jhargram, Paschim Midnapore**

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Meghnad Deshmukh, Saibal Saha\* and Shanti Pal

### **Tasar Culture**

During the year, 2500 tasar host plants (Arjun) were planted in Joypur on a plot of vested land, which 20 members of the samiti later received as patta land.

Construction of the grainage house at Ashakanthi was completed during the year, with financial support from the Department of Sericulture. Ninety members from three samitis produced 73300 seed cocoons after rearing 1700 Dfls received from the CSB. The entire produce, worth Rs.105325.00, was sold to Nari Bikash Sangha for grainage purpose. 125 members of seven samitis reared 3100 Dfls procured from NBS. Despite Phyllin effect, samitis produced 120400 cocoons and sold to a private trader from Jharkhand for Rs.246081.00.

Maintenance of tasar host plants such as pruning, cleaning of tasar fields, application of pesticides, were completed in six samitis in due time. Three members in two samitis received grainage training from the CSB unit in West Bengal. One of the samitis entered into a 50 year lease agreement with local tribals who were given patta right over a portion of the land on which the samiti's Tasar plantation exists.

### **Plantation of fruit plants**

With assistance from the Forest Dept., Godarasta samiti planted 1000 Cashew and 50 Mango Plants on 5 acres of samiti's own land.

### **Vermiculture**

During the year vermiculture was introduced for the first time in three samitis. Another four samitis produced 2575.00 kg of vermicompost. Out of that, 1000 kg. was sold to Vidyasagar University, 1000 kg. to the Forest Dept. and 275kg. was sold to the BCKV Jhargram. The rest was used by members for own cultivation. The Samitis earned Rs.22750.00 from the sale.

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\*Saibal Saha's service with CWDS ended on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2013



## Reen Tahabil

Because of technical problems, the MSBS Reen accounts could not be operated during the year. However this problem has been overcome and a new Reen Committee has been reconstituted.

## Vegetable Cultivation

During the year vegetable seeds and cuttings of Elephant foot yam (Madras Oal), Bitter gourd, French bean, Gourd, Ladies finger, Cabbage, Chilli, Pumpkin, Brinjal, Cauliflower, Potato etc. were distributed among 144 members of 10 samitis. Aside from meeting their own consumption needs, they sold the produce in the local markets/hats.

## Fixed Deposit

Encouraged by CWDS staff, four samitis deposited Rs.10000.00 each in fixed deposits, accumulated in the samiti fund in the local bank.

## Samiti meeting

During the year, CWDS staff conducted 64 meetings with the samiti members in the various samitis. The discussion points were problems and issues in tasar rearing, maintenance of tasar host plants, new plantation, vegetable cultivation, loan programme, vermicomposting, construction of samiti building, plantation of fruit plants and formation of new samitis.

During the year the Executive Committee of the Mahila Sarbik Bikash Sangha (MSBS) had five meetings at the Jhargram office. The discussions focussed on how to run samiti activities, samiti elections, collection of membership fee, new samiti formation, new income generation activities, construction of new vermi shed, management of Reen Tahabil Programme, maintenance of tasar host plants, programme for new plantation and vegetable cultivation etc.

An important aspect that we need to keep in mind with regard to the Action Research work is the changing nature of our work given the processes of economic change and the relationship with the Nari Bikash Sangha, which has acquired its own identity over the decades. If we are to continue to make an impact, more planning needs to go into our interaction and engagement with both the Mahila Samitis as well as with our own team involved with the Action Research Programme, who have continued their work under the most trying and challenging conditions.

The CWDS now has more than three decades of experience in building a partnership with the communities residing here and facilitating the setting up of collectives of women. We need to reflect on our work as well as the nature of our involvement and institutional form in which this is to be taken forward in the coming years.

## Teaching Women's Studies

The M.Phil/Ph.D. Programme in Women's and Gender Studies, being run in collaboration with Ambedkar University Delhi, has now entered its third year. It is clear that teaching – learning, acquired a younger face with this. The interaction with students offers us a unique opportunity to take forward an inter-generational dialogue. This should help us to open up fresh channels of communication between the youth and the women's movement from our specific location. Meanwhile, the short courses that we conduct offer an opportunity for an interface with newer and different groups of young students coming from diverse social locations. The workshop on Research Methodology in Women's Studies, conducted with primarily Hindi medium students, was one such initiative.

## M.Phil-Ph.D Program in Women's and Gender Studies Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) - CWDS

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The year 2013-14 marked the second year of the collaboration between Ambedkar University Delhi and CWDS and a second batch of M.Phil students has now joined, and the first batch of Ph.D. students has been inaugurated. All CWDS faculty with research degrees are actively involved in this programme, as teachers, supervisors and in the overall administration.

### M.Phil. Programme

No changes were made to the overall course structure during 2013-14 which runs over two years. It consists of 30 credits of which 18 credits come from course work and 12 credits are for the dissertation.

The maximum number of students for the second batch was set at 18, including reserved categories for SC, ST and OBC as per UGC rules.

1)	Women's Movements (4 credits)	4)	Feminist Theories (4 credits)
2)	Reading Texts in Historical Context (4 credits)	5)	Research Methodologies through Exemplary works- Part 2 (2 credits)
3)	Research Methodologies through Exemplary Works –Part 1 (2 credits)	6)	Dialogue with Researchers (2 credits)
<b>Dissertation 12 credits</b>		<b>Dissertation 12 credits</b>	

The course on women's movements sought to provide students with a sense of the history and main concerns of women's movements since the 19<sup>th</sup> century into the present. It was co-taught by Rukmini Sen (AUD) and Indu Agnihotri. The course 'Reading Texts in Historical Context' was structured around two texts, Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* and Mrinalini Sinha's *Spectres of Mother India* in order to facilitate an in-depth contextual reading for students. It was co-taught by Anup Dhar (AUD) and Mary John. Research methodologies through exemplary works was spread over two semesters and sought to enable students to both appreciate different social science methodologies and practical application through small projects. The course was co-taught by Rachana Johri and Rukmini Sen (AUD) and Neetha N. and Renu Addlakha. In Semester two the course Feminist Theories sought to familiarise students with the different theoretical orientations and conceptual vocabularies that have been used by scholars in the field of women's and gender studies. It was co-taught by Mary John, Seema Kazi and Rachna Chaudhuri (AUD). The course 'Dialogue with Researchers' was structured around the writings

and the research work of select women's studies scholars and sought to help students think through how a research question can be developed. It was co-taught by Shubhra Nagalia, Shad Naved (AUD) and Bijoya Roy.

### **Student Intake 2013-14**

Over 100 students applied for the Course of which about 50 were shortlisted for the entrance exam and interviewed and 17 selected. By the second semester the total number of M.Phil. students was 16. This meant that the batch of students was larger than in the previous year. Classes were held every week either at the AUD or CWDS, and over the course of the first Semester students became more acquainted with the CWDS, including the library. Students came from very diverse backgrounds, with a few having completed a Master's programme in Women's Studies or Gender Studies, while most came from other disciplines. By the end of the second semester students were working on their research proposals.

### **First Batch of Students 2012-13**

Out of the first batch of students 10 students completed their course work by May 2013. One student opted to go directly for Ph.D, while the remaining finalised their M.Phil. proposals. During the year 2013-14 they have been working on their dissertations, with supervisors from either AUD or CWDS. The first batch of students will be submitting their M. Phil dissertations in August 2014.

### **Ph.D. Programme**

In 2013-14, the AUD-CWDS collaboration took a further step by beginning a Ph.D. programme. Guidelines were finalised in the previous year. A maximum of 4 seats were allocated for the Ph.D. programme for 2013-14. Out of the candidates shortlisted and after interviews, 3 were selected. Two students took some of the courses in the M.Phil. during 2013-14 while finalising their Ph.D. proposals, while one student moved directly into the Ph.D. after completing M.Phil. course work.

### **Administrative Structure**

The administrative structure remained much the same in 2013-14 with the main administration of the M.Phil./Ph.D. programme located with the AUD, given that it is the degree granting institution. Collaborative meetings between AUD and CWDS were held regularly at very stage from planning the entrance examination, conducting interviews, finalising courses, allotting supervisors and other aspects relating to the overall administration of the course. Meetings were held alternately at both institutions.

## Financial Support

By mid 2013 the Ambedkar University Delhi was able to set up a system of stipends for research students. Even though it is a State University it managed to offer stipends similar to those offered by Central Universities. As per AUD rules a maximum of 10 students who do not have other fellowship support are offered a stipend of Rs.5000 at the M.Phil. stage and Rs. 8000 at the Ph.D. stage. Out of the first batch of students 8 students have received the stipend. Two students are JRF holders, but unfortunately there have been undue delays in disbursing their fellowships by the UGC.

For the second batch of students 10 students were provided stipends by the AUD. The CWDS is providing stipends to 6 students drawn from the socially marginalised groups and in this way all students are receiving financial support

However, financial difficulties in availing of UGC fellowships due to delays are a major hurdle faced by the students.

At the Ph.D. level, out of the three students in our Ph.D. programme, one is a JRF holder, and one is an Assistant Professor currently on leave to pursue this Programme.

## ICSSR Doctoral Fellowships

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The ICSSR has offered CWDS 6 fellowships based on open advertisement, which provides Rs.16,000 p.m. for two years, extendable by one more year. In the latter part of 2013 the CWDS advertised these Fellowships and held interviews. A total of 6 fellowships were offered following the interview and five were taken. The Fellowship recipients this year are mostly from outside Delhi and CWDS Faculty members have been appointed Advisors to ensure co-ordination and monitoring with them.

## Research Methodology Workshop Conducted by CWDS Jointly with the Department of Women's Studies, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalay, Wardha

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A seven-day workshop on Research Methodology in Women's Studies was conducted by CWDS in collaboration with the Department of Women's Studies, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalay, (MGAHV) Wardha, between September 23<sup>rd</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> 2013, in Wardha.

The objectives of the workshop were to provide an introductory overview to questions of Research Methodology in Women's Studies. The workshop aimed to address the gap in the training of students coming from different streams, to post-graduate courses in Women's Studies. Another important reason for holding this workshop in collaboration with MGAHV was that there is a dearth of reading material in Hindi. The workshop was one more step towards capacity building for teaching in Women's Studies from within the social sciences in Hindi.

A special effort was made to provide reading material in Hindi to the participants and to conduct the sessions in Hindi.

- ❖ The keynote/introductory presentation by Dr. Renu Addlakha, Deputy Director, CWDS covered a range of aspects related to research in the social sciences and its philosophical foundations along with debates, and introduced participants to different philosophical and methodological standpoints.
- ❖ The session on Feminist Critiques of Knowledge Production by Dr. Addlakha discussed how gender is marginalised in knowledge production across different disciplines. The presentation highlighted the dominance of patriarchal modes of thought in the knowledge systems along with a feminist critique.
- ❖ A special session conducted by Renu Addlakha focused on Gender and Disability.
- ❖ Dr. N. Neetha conducted two sessions on Women in the Economy and Women and Work to discuss methodological aspects related to women's work, data analysis and emerging trends.
- ❖ Dr. Manjeet Bhatia, from the Women's Studies Development Centre, Delhi University, made a presentation on the Protection of Women Against Domestic Violence Act, 2005 which discussed aspects of the law as well as issues emerging from field based studies.
- ❖ Prof. Wandana Sonalkar from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai conducted a session which explored the linkages between Gender and Caste.
- ❖ In a session on Women and History: Questions of Method, Dr. Indu Agnihotri discussed the need to historically contextualise analysis of patriarchy and women's experiences and the different methodological frameworks available to study these.
- ❖ In another session on Women's Studies and the Women's Movement Dr. Indu Agnihotri traced the linkages between the two while pointing to the parallel, yet different, trajectories that the two have followed in the Indian context.

Of the sixty-nine registered participants in the workshop, thirty-nine were women and thirty men. The workshop generated a lot of interest and there was active participation by the students.

The group presentations by the students at the end of the workshop covered a range of themes and probed methodological questions. The CWDS team was particularly touched by the level of curiosity and interest visible amongst the participants. In their feedback, the students emphasised the need to continued need for such efforts to take forward the discourse from the specific location of students pursuing academics in the Hindi medium.

The initiative to organise this workshop on issues of Research Methodology in Women's Studies in Hindi was taken by Dr. Vasanthi Raman, given her location at MGAHV in that period. Awantika Shukla, from the Dept. of Women's Studies was the local convenor.

The Vice-Chancellor of the MGAHV, along with the Head, Dept. of Women's Studies, addressed the students in the closing session where certificates were distributed to participants. Dr. Indu Agnihotri delivered the Valedictory Address.

## Advocacy and Networking

The terrain of advocacy and networking has seen many shifts given the direction and pace of change. The past year saw violence against women re-emerge as a significant issue in joint platforms of women's organisations. The dialogue with policy planning agencies and the state has seen divergent perspectives emerging on how to address issues. There is a need to take the debates on women's rights and entitlements from more informed locations based on rigorous research and information from the field, given the trends visible with regard to growth policies and the impact of these on women. Our links with issue-based networks focusing on Work, especially Women's Employment, Domestic Work and Care, Disability and Child Care have been consolidated.



## Indian Association of Women's Studies (IAWS)

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The Secretariat of the Indian Association of Women's Studies continues to be hosted by the CWDS with the present Director also being the General Secretary of the Association.

During 2013-14 the IAWS organised several workshops on a range of themes.

These were as follows: 1) *Recovering Pasts: Interrogating the Present*, in collaboration with the Centre for Women's Studies, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2013; The highlight of this workshop was a session with women alumni of A.M.U, with the aim of documenting their experiences in the form of oral narratives. 2) *Engendering Tourism: Work, Opportunities and Dilemmas*; in collaboration with Equations, Bangalore, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2013. The workshop engaged with some key questions related to women, livelihood and tourism. 3) *Gender, Alternate Media and Feminist Organising*, in collaboration with the Department of Communication and Journalism (Gujarat University), Navsarjan and Anandi, 12<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> August, 2013, Ahmedabad. The workshop, focused on the various forms of media and their responses to social issues, and attempted to facilitate a dialogue with media students on the women's movement. 4) *Disability Studies, Gender and Subjectivity* with School of Human Studies, Ambedkar University, Delhi. 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2013. The workshop discussed the question of exclusions, in relation to Disability and the women's movement. Participants not only discussed marginality but also the possibility of rethinking the politics of different bodies and of new forms of knowledge production under Disability studies. 5) The last workshop, on *Land and Custom* held in collaboration with Indian Council of Historical Research, in Guwahati, on 14<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> December, 2013, highlighted the need to examine customary laws and more recent enactments, while emphasising the need to be sensitive to the problems inherent in the exercise of codification given the specificity and diversity within the North Eastern region.

A significant part of last year was devoted to organising the XIV National conference of the IAWS in Guwahati, Assam. The theme of the Conference was *Equality, Pluralism and the State: Perspectives from the Women's Movement*. This was held in collaboration with the Department of Women's Studies, Gauhati University; TISS, Guwahati; Cotton College State University and the North East Network. The conference aimed at advancing a dialogue with women's studies scholars and activists in the region and to incorporate issues and concerns coming from the region into the Women's Studies discourse in India. The plenary sessions focused on Building Women's Studies in the North East; Women's Movements in the North East and Women in South Asia: Contemporary Challenges. The Madhuri Shah Memorial Lecture titled Exploring Plural Identities: Women's Studies to North East Studies was delivered by Nandita Haksar and there was a special lecture on Sexual Violence Against Women: State Responsibility and Culpability by Vrinda Grover. There were 11 parallel *Sub-theme sessions held on Women's Rights and*

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Entitlements to Land and Land-based Resources; Encountering Globalisation: Women and Social Security; Women in Urban India: Debating Labour/Employment, Poverty and Violence which evoked such an enthusiastic response that the sessions had to be divided into two; Pluralities: Caste, Ethnicity, Language and Gender ; Pluralities: Ethnicity, Language and Gender ; Equality, Conflict, Pluralism and Women's Studies; Education, Knowledge and Institutional Space(s); Culture and Region; Women, Peace and Security in India; Documenting Gendered Histories: Nation, State, Region and Local; Women's Movement's Engagement with Policy. In addition to this, a special session was organised on *Looking to the Future: Women's Status, Sex Ratio and Contemporary Challenges to focus on the subject of declining sex ratios*.

The conference was preceded by three pre conference events: Engaging with Voices of Women with Disabilities; Young Women: Resisting Violence and Exploring Legacies and one on Women Writers which was facilitated by Zubaan Publishers.

The conference elicited an enthusiastic response including from the North Eastern region. There were over 1000 participants, including nearly one third from different parts of the North East region. Nearly 400 papers were presented in the different sub theme sessions. Most striking was the participation of young scholars and activists. It was also evident that the teaching of Women's studies in the Universities has generated interest and response from an entirely new section.

Organising the conference involved a massive effort, with a large part of the burden being shouldered by the local collaborating institutions. The CWDS faculty and the academic and administrative support staff played a key role, sharing both the academic and organisational responsibilities at several levels. However, the success of the conference was ensured by the local organising team, which apart from organising the local hospitality, mobilised a huge volunteer team from amongst the students from the collaborating institutions.

Two issues of the IAWS Newsletter have been published during the last year. The General Body Meeting held in Guwahati adopted several amendments to the IAWS constitution which were necessitated by the changing context within which the association now functions. The membership of the Association has crossed 2000 members. As of now elections have been announced and with the election of the new Executive committee the term of the present General Secretary will come to an end later this year.

## CWDS - FORCES Network

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National Coordinator/ Programme Manager: Savitri Ray

Ever since the National Secretariat of FORCES moved to the CWDS, the attempt had been twofold: to bring the network more visibility and to reinvigorate the network. It was realised that for any meaningful intervention in the matter of policy- making, FORCES needed to strengthen its network nationally and revisit its charter. Over the past few years, through intense deliberations in workshops, and national/regional consultations, FORCES has managed to articulate a pointed agenda for the improvement of Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD). FORCES is now working together with state-based NGOs, and has been represented at international conferences on ECCD.

The network members recognise that the flagship government program for early child care in India continues to be the ICDS program and it is important to strengthen this institution. In the past few years Supreme Court rulings have buoyed the legal demand for universalisation of the mid-day meal scheme and better working conditions (including wages and quality of food served) for the anganwadi workers. Through its work FORCES has been able to reach out to a larger section of actors/stakeholders. There is a need to work with PRI members, ICDS workers and ASHA workers, among others and a need to engage with them constructively. We plan to continue the dialogue through joint workshops with both state as well as national level organisations

Given that this was to be the last year for CWDS housing the FORCES secretariat the issue was discussed in the FORCES working group meetings. The members proposed that CWDS continue as the convenor organisation along with an opinion that a three year term is too short and should be increased to five years. It was also proposed that CWDS should consider taking on a second term. Apart from the matter of rotation of the secretariat, other organisational aspects discussed were the matter of registration of FORCES, given the need for fund raising; organisational structure; secretariat location; human resources and development of a collective leadership etc. But there is no unanimity on several of these matters amongst members on these various aspects, including the subject of registration. Some members in the network feel that registration may not by itself bring energy, commitment or passion, nor would it ensure funding. It was decided to discuss this issue at length in a separate meeting.

The 2014 being election year, efforts were made to use this opportunity to enlist political parties' support and commitment to ECCD and get a strengthening of the ICDS. FORCES also prepared a charter of demands and shared this with other networks and various political parties. Members also contributed in the CRC deliberations to include the issue of the young child.



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## **Project: Situational Analysis of the Role of PRIs in implementation of ICDS Mission**

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Project coordinator- Savitri Ray

In continuation with last year's agenda on disseminating information on ICDS restructuring or ICDS Mission, an action study is planned for this year mainly involving elected representatives of panchayats. The ICDS Mission mode is talking about involving PRIs in the functioning of ICDS. Hence a questionnaire has been designed to elicit the information related to their level of involvement at the ground level. The study is being conducted in eight states. It covers 25 districts and from each district one block with five panchayats has been identified. A tabulation plan has been developed by the secretariat and the process of entering the field data has already begun. The study also has a component of sharing information with all stakeholders, wherein advocacy workshops are planned at the state/district levels.

### **Training Workshop on Research Methodology and Project Management February 26 – March 1, 2014, ILD, Jaipur**

A training workshop on the above theme was organised under the component of capacity building. Sessions on Research methodology that mainly included quantitative and qualitative analysis were conducted by Prof. Ramani from Rajasthan University and Dr. Kanchan Mathur from IDS, Jaipur, respectively. The aspects covered included: area of project management; results based management and its application to various stages in the project cycle; situational analysis: process and tools, challenges in conducting situational analysis on sensitive issues and methods and tools for monitoring and evaluation, including developing data collection plan and tools etc.

## Library and Information Services

The library hub where the CWDS library has been located for several years aims to provide an appropriate environment and facilities for running of the CWDS library and Information services. The last year has seen a significant increase in readership. This has proceeded alongside efforts to consolidate the initiatives taken in recent years to build an E-collection, including documents from the women's movement. The Hindi collection has also grown. Our bibliographies on specific focus areas are welcomed by scholars and activists alike.

## Introduction

The CWD Library has been playing a significant role in supporting research, learning and teaching at CWDS. It continues to build its resources in the area of women's studies in various forms such as books, journals, research papers, reports, e-resources, theses etc. The Library also provides a range of information services to enhance the reach of its knowledge resources to users from India and abroad.

## Collection

The Library has been consciously building its collection while keeping a balance between both commercially produced material and grey literature. Special efforts have continuously been made to collect grey literature in the area of women's studies. These are generally circulated in the form of institutional papers/reports, conference papers/ proceedings and other forms of mimeo papers. In recent years the focus has been on enhancing the digital collection, largely in the form of articles from journals and newspapers. Some of the thrust areas for collection building have been: Laws, Rape, Women's Movement, Domestic Workers, Sexual Harassment, Employment and Work.

## Hindi Collection

Special efforts have been made to procure material in Hindi in recent years in view of the fact that there is today a significant discourse on Women's Studies in the Hindi language publications. This also meets the information demand of scholars from universities and colleges, especially from the Hindi speaking states i.e. Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Bihar Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. During this year, a total of 119 books have been added to the collection. The Library also subscribes to 14 journals and 2 dailies in Hindi Language.

The total collection of the Library for the year is the following as on March 2014.

Collection	Added in 2013-2014		Total	Total Collection
	Purchased	Complimentary		
Books/ Reference Documents	175	221	396	8890
Monographs/ Institutional Papers	-	175	175	6730
Conference Documents	-	13	13	1270
Newspapers Clippings Files	-	10	10	90
Journals (Subscribed/ Exchange and Complimentary including 14 Hindi journals)	55/6	79	140	562
Journals - Bound Volumes	33	-	33	914



## Bibliographical Databases

The Library is maintaining various bibliographical databases using WIN-ISIS and GENISISWeb for storage and user friendly access:

1. **Mahila Database** (Catalogue): Currently the database has over 45,500 records. During this year a total of 2,500 records have been added, including the analytics.
2. **Article Index Database**: This contains over 40,500 records. During this year a total of 4,300 records have been added, which includes 1,700 additional articles related to the Nirbhaya case.
3. **Full-text Article index Database** – The database contains selected full-text articles from journals on women's issues. Currently this has over 12,000 articles. During this year, the Library added 3,000 full-text articles in the collection.
4. **Koha: Integrated Open Source Library Software** - Koha has been installed in a newly acquired mini server machine. During January-February 2013, the data from both main databases i.e Mahila and Article index database has been converted, including analytical entries, into MARC format and incorporated into the Koha software. Currently it has over **80,500** records. Koha is implemented on OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) and is also available for access to the CWDS Library users on Intranet at: <http://192.168.0.9:9000>

## JSTOR

The Library has access to JSTOR since October 2004 and this is made available to Library users on request. Since November 2007, the JSTOR subscription has been made available through the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR).

## Information Services

To facilitate the dissemination of its resources, the Library has initiated various information services over the period. The highlights of our information services are:

Electronic Services	Others Services
Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)	Reference and Referral
Current Awareness Bulletin (Monthly)	Database Search/ Printouts
Web Bibliography	Document Delivery
BOL – An Electronic Discussion List on Gender	Photocopying
Issues in South Asia	Reading Room Services
Union Catalogue of Periodicals	Inter-Library Loan

## **Bibliographies**

The CWDS Library has compiled the following bibliographies during this year which are available for download at: [www.cwds.ac.in/library/services/bib.htm](http://www.cwds.ac.in/library/services/bib.htm)

- 1. Women's Movement: A bibliography /by Meena Usmani and Akhlaq Ahmed. 2014. 145p.**

The bibliography covers documents upto 2013 available in the CWDS Library with a total of 972 entries. It is divided into two parts. The first part contains 654 entries from books, analytics (chapters from the edited books), reports and institutional papers, conference papers etc. The second part contains over 300 articles from periodicals and newsletters. The list of periodicals, both Indian and foreign, is also provided.

- 2. Women's Studies Resources: Nirbhaya – An Index of Newspaper Articles /by Deepa Singhal and Akhlaq Ahmed. 2013. 228p.**

The publication has over 1700 news articles/ items collected from 8 English dailies received in the Library. The entries covered are from the day the incident happened till 14<sup>th</sup> September 2013, the day of the delivery of the judgment by the District Courts. These are broadly organised in the following five sections: The Incident; Protests; Recommendations/ Suggestions; The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013; and Court Proceedings. Each item is organised according to the date of publication under the different sections, to maintain the flow of ideas and progression of the issue. The record contains information about the author, title, newspaper name, date, pages and the URL address, to allow for a full text view of the item as published in the original source/website.

- 3. Women's Studies Resources: Vina Mazumdar /by Meena Usmani and Madhu Shree. 2013. 50p.**

This publication was planned as a tribute to Prof. Vina Mazumdar, Founder Director of CWDS from the CWDS Library team. It is divided into four parts and contains a total no. of 165 entries, arranged as follows: author, corporate body and titles as the case may be. The first part highlights the tributes to Prof. Vina Mazumdar published in various Newspapers received in the Library. Part II contains entries from books, analytics (chapters from the edited books), monographs, reports and conference papers/proceedings. Part III consists of journals/newspapers articles and part IV has three indexes i.e. Name Index containing personal and corporate author, Keywords Index, and Geographical Index to facilitate easy retrieval.

**4. Women-Micro Credit/ Micro Finance and Self Help Groups /by Meena Usmani and Akhlaq Ahmed. 2013. 79p.-(CWDS Library Resource Series; XIII)**

The bibliography "Women-Micro Credit/ Micro Finance and Self Help Groups" focuses on diverse aspects of Micro Credit such as Micro Finance, Micro Banking, Self Help Groups etc. The bibliography covers documents upto 2013 and contains 421 entries. It is divided into two parts: the first part contains 161 entries from books, analytics (chapters from edited books), reports and institutional papers, while the second part contains over 260 entries from periodicals and newspaper articles.

### **Outreach Activities**

**1. New Resources of Indian Journal of Gender Studies (IJGS)**  
*(by Meena Usmani and Akhlaq Ahmed)*

The Library has been providing a compilation of resources for the CWDS' Publication, the Indian Journal of Gender Studies (IJGS) under the Section "New Resources" since 2003. This contains information about documents and announcements of conferences/ workshops etc. From this year wherever possible, a full text link has been provided along with the listed document.

**2. Display and Dissemination of CWDS Publications –** A stall for display and distribution of CWDS Publications was organised by the CWDS Library in February 2014 at the IAWS' XIV National Conference on Women's Studies in Guwahati.

### **Library Usage Statistics**

The Library extends its services to a large number of users from India and abroad. During this year a total number of 1,470 researchers have consulted the CWDS Library. We notice that there is a 53% increase of Library users during this year. Further analysis reveals that there were 303 new users during this year, out of which 199 were from Delhi, representing 6 Universities; 106 were from other states of India, while 16 were from outside India. A total number of 8,419 documents were consulted by the Library users. These consisted of 5,243 books, 391 reference documents, 968 mimeo papers, 492 conference documents, 124 newspaper clippings files, and 1301 periodicals. Around 400 documents were issued and 465 were returned in-house. The Library provided over 50,000 pages of zerox from its collection to its users.

## **Library Committee**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Library Committee was held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2013. The following issues were discussed:

- ❖ Proposal to compile two bibliographies on the Women's Movement and Dalits and Scheduled Castes. Preparation of a dossier on newspaper clippings on the "Nirbhaya Case".
- ❖ The issue of subscriptions to new journals was also discussed. Members were informed that the ICSSR would be subsidising 100% of JSTOR access to its institutions. The faculty suggested that we explore other online resources.
- ❖ The specific needs of students from the CWDS-AUD M.Phil and Ph.D Programme were discussed. It was decided that books may be issued for a period of one week to students. The photocopying charges for students would be 50 paise per page.
- ❖ The acquisition request for two computers and mini server machine was also proposed.

## **Library Development**

During this period, attention has been paid to staff development. Library staff members have participated in a range of conferences & workshops and made visits to other libraries. These include Training Workshops for Library staff to update skills.

- ❖ **Meena Usmani and Madhu Shree** attended "The XIV IAWS National Conference on Women's Studies on "Equality, Pluralism and the State: Perspectives from the Women's Movement", in collaboration with Guwahati University, from 4-7 February 2014, Guwahati.
- ❖ **Madhu Shree and Ratna Sharma** attended a "Workshop on Professional Development Programme for Managerial Librarianship for Social Science Libraries", Organised by NASSDOC and TERI, from 17-19 July, 2013.
- ❖ **Akhlaq Ahmed** attended a "Training Workshop on Open Source Software for Library Management". Organised by IIT Kharagpur, from 3-7 June, 2013.

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## Publications



## Publications

- ❖ **Sex Ratios and Gender Biased Sex Selection: History, Debates and Future Directions by Mary E. John.** This Report is an overview of the History and Research on the issues of declining Child Sex Ratios commissioned by UN Women and UNFPA. It was publicly released on July, 22, 2014.
- ❖ The October 2013 Review of Women's Studies in the Economic and Political Weekly featured a **Special Issue on Domestic Workers guest edited by N. Neetha.** The papers published were drawn from the workshop organised in March 2013.
- ❖ **Saksham: Measures to ensure safety of Women and Gender Sensitisation on Campuses.** Report of the UGC Task Force on issues related to Gender Sensitisation and Sexual Harassment on university and college campuses, of which Prof. Mary E. John was co-chair.
- ❖ **Need Assessment for Creches and Child Care Services, a study for MWCD.** Undertaken by Vasanthi Raman, for FORCES/ CWDS.
- ❖ **'Unfree Mobility: Adivasi Women's Migration',** by Indrani Mazumdar, CWDS *Occasional Paper* No. 60, 2014.
- ❖ **Women in NREGA: Issues of Child Care:** Case Studies from Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh (FORCES/CWDS).

### CWDS Initiative in Hindi

There is a plan to translate CWDS Occasional Papers, J.P. Naik Memorial Lectures and Papers by Vina Mazumdar with the objective of bringing out a series of short papers in Hindi.

The translation has been undertaken by Nayantara Singh and Vijay Kumar Jha under the supervision of Dr. Indu Agnihotri.

Some of the publications of which translations are under way include:

- ❖ J.P.Naik Memorial Lectures translated into Hindi:
  - Some Reflection on Dowry by M.N.Srinivas.

- Selecting Identities from the Past by Romila Thapar.
- Kinship and Gender in South and Southeast Asia: Patterns and Contrasts – Leela Dube, 1994.
- ❖ From Women's Education to Women's Studies – Vina Mazumdar and Neera Desai *Narratives from the Women's Studies Family: Recreating Knowledge*, (eds.) Devaki Jain and Pam Rajput, Sage Publications 2003.
- ❖ Women's Movement and Legal Process – Lotika Sarkar, Occasional Paper, CWDS.
- ❖ Alternative Interpretations of the Ramayana: Views from Below - *Nabaneeta Dev Sen*, J.P. Naik Memorial Lecture, CWDS, 2001
- ❖ Field notes of the project "Gender and Migration: Negotiating Rights, a Women's Movement Perspective".

### Indian Journal of Gender Studies

Since 1994 *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* (IJGS) has published several articles and research notes from different disciplines and areas along with the book reviews and information on new resources. In June 2013, IJGS published an interesting and special issue (20:2) on ***Gender Labour and Social Reproduction*** with Meena Gopal as its guest editor. The issue touched upon a wide range of topics from autobiographical perspectives on women's labour, reflections from feminism on sexuality and social reproduction, the role of microfinance in empowerment and case studies of school teachers as agents of change.

The October 2013 issue (20:3) included a combination of papers on gender difference in equity sensitivity between Korean female and male workers, changes in conceptions of Chinese marriage and family with regards to shifting from kinship- dependent relations to a materialistic orientation. Another paper focussed on problematic gender distinction and hierarchy reproduced through Ayurvedic products in modern India, while the fourth paper was a study on women weavers in *Thenzawl* handloom clusters in Mizoram. This issue also carried a case study of Meghalaya on the effects of drought on livelihoods and gender roles as a research note.

The first issue of February 2014 (21:1) carried informed papers on female reformist writings and the contradictions within India. The social reform project, the emergence of men's rights groups in the contemporary India, the role of language in the construction of gender identity through Pakistani school books, examination of Kannada romances written by women during 1950s- 1960s and the political campaign of Indian women against indentured labour emigration.

The IJGS has successfully completed twenty years in the year 2013 and to mark this, a workshop titled: '**In Memoriam**' has been planned in collaboration with the Department of

Sociology, Delhi University on 12<sup>th</sup>- 13th August 2014 at Delhi University. The extracts as well as the critiques developed during the workshop and, wherever possible, the text of the discussions of the workshop will become a **Special Number** of IJGS.

#### **CWDS Calendar (In Memoriam 2014)**

CWDS' calendar for 2014 - In Memoriam – honours four remarkable women-Lotika Sarkar, Leela Dube, Neera Desai and Vina Mazumdar. They were founding mothers of the discipline of women's studies and the contemporary Indian women's movement and were instrumental in the setting up of CWDS in 1980 and the Indian Association Women's Studies in 1982. Today, women's studies and the women's movement in India owe much to the individual and collective achievements of these feisty women. In our calendar, through a collection of rare photos that memorialise personal and public moments we celebrate these significant figures of independent India.



## Seminars/Workshops/Conferences/Dialogues

During 2013-14 the following Seminars and Conferences were organised:

- ❖ **National Workshop on Women's Work, Employment and the Indian Economy** held on April 26-27, 2013, Bhai Vir Singh Sahitya Sadan, New Delhi.

A highly gendered employment crisis was the backdrop to the Workshop on Women's Work, Employment and the Indian Economy (supported by the ICSSR). In 8 sessions across two days, 21 presentations were made and commented on by 12 discussants, 8 chairpersons plus other participants. An additional 4 member panel discussion by representatives of women's organisations enabled interactive discussions between academic participants and activists/leaders of the women's movement.

**Day 1:** Presentations in the morning sessions chaired by TCA Anant and Prabhat Patnaik; focused on **paid and unpaid work and valuation of women's work in the economy**. In the sessions **Jayati Ghosh** highlighted the contrast between declining female work participation rates in India and most other developing countries where phases of rapid growth had shown rapid and often substantial increase in overt female employment. She argued that with higher rates of open unemployment among women, particularly in urban areas, increasing numbers of girls, who are presently getting educated, can be expected to soon start looking for jobs that are just not there. **Indira Hirway** drew on time use surveys to show that women in India spent 4 hours 26 minutes more than men on unpaid work. She argued that this unpaid work was subsidising the rest of economy and needed to be reduced by infrastructure as well as redistribution of the work between men and women, between the government, market and households. **Indu Agnihotri** argued that with the state withdrawing from welfare and regulatory responsibilities, the financial burden of reproduction is being pushed onto family units, bringing inhuman stress and violence into the lives of women. **Padmini Swaminathan** argued that various poverty alleviation schemes including micro-credit and micro-finance have masked the increased work thrust on rural women while simultaneously rendering their labour invisible and outside the purview of protective labour legislation. **Devaki Jain** suggested that the answer to the question of valuation of women's work would vary according to class, geographical region, and what kind of overall political economy ideas or ideology we choose and that GDP masks the breakdown of the social structure and natural habitat upon which the economy and life ultimately depend and

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portrays such breakdown as economic gain. The discussions on the presentations were led by *Jeemol Unni, Saraswati Raju, Hema Swaminathan, and Ishita Mukhopadhyaya*.

A session on *the agrarian question and women's work* was chaired by **Ajit Ghose**. In her presentation **Utsa Patnaik** drew attention to persistent agrarian distress and to unbalanced growth under neo-liberal policies in India, arguing that fiscal contraction led to unemployment and that the issue of fiscal policies needed to be taken up by the women's movement. With reference to the outlier phenomenon of increased levels of employment shown in NSS's 2004-05, *Vikas Rawal* argued that evidence from village surveys across several states did not support any such increase and that the continuing trend of declining rural female work participation rates in all other NSS survey rounds indicated that the 2004-05 survey was particularly defective. *Jaya Mehta* argued that the political response to the agrarian crisis should incorporate collective actions in which women workers in agriculture, as seen in the case of Kudumbashree, appear to be showing extraordinary zeal.

Chaired by *Ritu Dewan*, in a session on *formality, informality, migration and wage inequality*, *Ravi Srivastava* pointed out that although in the non-agricultural female workforce the share of the organised sector was slightly more than among male workers, 65-70% of women *regular workers* in manufacturing were informal workers, and the gap between men's and women's wages in urban casual labour has increased; *Indrani Mazumdar*, drew on CWDS' migration study to point to the relatively greater share of agriculture in women's labour migration, and the concentration of women migrants in a narrow band of occupations even in urban areas; Using NSS data *Ratna Sudarshan* showed that the gender wage gap is high in women dominated occupations and it was argued that the lower gap in male dominated occupations reflects low presence of women. *Chirashree Dasgupta* and *Satyaki Roy* were the lead discussants in these two sessions.

*Kumud Sharma* chaired the *panel discussion*, in which *Renana Jhabvala* brought out the experience of the enduring effort and time required to organise informal workers, the emergence of new cooperatives, of younger educated women being more assertive but often facing a patriarchal backlash, and the declining ability of street vendors to fight police and municipality attacks, and the struggles of small landholders to raise productivity; *Amarjeet Kaur* highlighted the increasing interaction between the women's movement and trade unions and the support of male workers to the enduring struggle by ASHA and Anganwadi workers who are given nominal wages, being recognised as volunteers instead of workers; *Ruth Manorama* highlighted the intersecting relationship between caste, class, and gender affecting women's movement, and how women's discrimination and their emancipation cannot be fully conceptualised without understanding work, class and caste relationship; *Brinda Karat* focused attention on the links between neo-liberal policies, women's work related problems and the everyday discrimination they face, and on how the changing nature of women's work in the present situation is making them more vulnerable to violence. She argued that the SHG movement is not a panacea to

ensure women's empowerment at the larger all India level and that government policies and their manner of implementation need critical evaluation.

**Day 2:** *Meera Velayudhan* chaired the session on *agriculture and rural women's employment*, in which *Davuluri Venkateswarlu* drew attention to the rapid growth of contract farming in the post liberalisation period, particularly in cottonseed, where, apart from the high use of female adult and child labour, a shift from larger commercial farms to small family farms in remote areas was taking place. *Vinoj Abraham* suggested that the decline in rural women's work participation could be explained by attempts to reduce the double burden of paid and unpaid work and a more intense engagement in status production. *Sona Mitra* pointed to the clustering/ghettoisation of women in certain forms of labour and argued that proactive government interventions were required - to ensure greater mobility for women across and within sectors - for a positive impact on WPRs. With reference to the MGNREGS *Ashok Pankaj* pointed to disjunctions between work and process participation and the continued dominance of male in PRIs, arguing that variation in women's involvement in MGNREGS is determined by the regional social context. *J. Jeyranjan* was the lead discussant in this session.

*Nirmala Banerjee* chaired the session on *women's employment in industry and services*. Pointing to the patriarchal nature of public works, *Hemalata* sharply critiqued the practice of government schemes bringing in women as workers but denying them worker status and giving them pittance as honorariums/commissions that are well below minimum wages. *Preet Rustagi* argued that NSS trends in the patterns of women's employment indicated that an association with globalisation may be witnessed in case of IT, garments, etc. where women workers have gained jobs but for the rest of the economy any gains in women's employment appear to be offshoots of the government efforts and schemes. *Mridul Eapen* presented a case study of the export oriented cashew industry and suggested that for social upgrading for women workers through pro-active state interventions. *Jessim Pais* and *Surajit Mazumdar* were the lead discussants.

*Mary John* chaired a session on *Intersections: caste, tribe, social group women's employment*. *Neetha N.* presented a detailed analysis of NSS trends in women's employment by social groups highlighting the fact that women of all groups had seen a decline in agricultural employment, that construction was most significant for ST and SC women, manufacturing for Muslim women, and in services, upper caste women more prominent in education and public administration, and SCs in domestic work. *Archana Prasad* argued that from a historical perspective on STs, especially in the Schedule 5 and 6 areas, two important structural features have conditioned the social division of labor, namely the internal hegemonic structures of the community, which is patriarchal in most communities and second, the absence of access to land rights, and limited access to technology and commercially viable produce. *Kiran Moghe* led the discussion on the presentations.

*Abhijit Sen* chaired the session on *labour Process, labour law and women's employment*. *Kamala Sankaran* pointed out that there were many forms of work/labour that are outside the gaze of the labour regulation, and that the 2008 social security law for unorganised workers included nothing about the regulation of work and no mechanism for complaint or dispute resolution and just states rights without giving a remedy. *Prabhu Mohapatra* raised the question whether work should be approached as a category or should it be taken in a relational sense and argued that a major shift in the employer-employee relationship is taking place even within the formal sector, whereby the relationship has changed to that of a buyer and seller and there is a need for a different study method to document changes taking place in relationality. *Anamitra Roychowdhury* showed that there is no evidence for the claim that employment growth not happening in the organised sector is due to the labor law. *Saumyajit Bhattacharya* argued that the tendency for the return of the family as a unit of work has a whole surplus extraction strategy to it, because a whole family working for the total family wage is not the same as the total family wage for one breadwinner. There are various kinds of labor processes in which family is becoming increasingly important. *Shobhana Warriar* and *Babu P. Remesh* led the discussion, which concluded with some reflections on the implications of the various changes taking place - with several battles by the labour movement having been lost on the other hand, but other battles opening up in the field of labour which certainly have a focus on law in them but elide over the labour process or employment question.

❖ **Workshop on Gender for Education in Society with Teachers at Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, New Delhi, 26-27 June 2013.**

Coordinated by Mary E. John

In response to a request from one of the schools in Delhi, Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, Mary John coordinated a two day workshop for all teachers of the school on issues relating to gender and education. The first day of the workshop consisted of introductory sessions on issues relating to women and gender more generally. The film 'Bend it Like Beckham' was screened followed by animated discussion in order to open up issues. Teachers made short presentations on how they perceived gender issues in the classroom and in relation to the subjects they teach and the textbooks they use. Dipta Bhog from Nirantar played a key role as resource person on the first day. The second day was structured around lectures on key themes. The first session on Women and Work was taken up by Neetha N. from CWDS, followed by one on sexual violence by Mary E. John, and two sessions in the afternoon – on history and gender by Janaki Nair (JNU) and science and gender (Vineeta Bal, National Centre for Immunology). The entire experience was an extremely positive one both for the resource persons and for the teachers. The teachers benefited from all the inputs and the amount of time that was given to gender



related issues. Resource persons were impressed by the interest shown by teachers, and it was felt that more such interactive events should be conducted.

- ❖ Seminar on “**Education for Social Change: Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives**”, in collaboration with Uttara Devi Resource Centre for Gender and Development, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) at India International Centre, New Delhi, August 30-31, 2013.

CWDS was happy to collaborate with the MSSRF to organise a two day event to mark Mina Swaminathan - one of our founder members - entering her Eightieth year. The event brought together many specialists, mostly working in the field of child rights and child care, fellow activists and young and old friends.

The Inaugural session, chaired by **Indu Agnihotri**, had several of Mina Swaminathan's colleagues reflect on her life, work and, achievements. These included **Prof. M.S. Swaminathan**, her life-long partner - who was involved in planning the event down to the last detail - along with their daughter, Nitya Rao; Devika Singh, Renuka Narayanan and Sumi Krishna. The discussion was enriching and participants felt that more documentation of Mina Swaminathan's life was required, to also put on record how some of the significant policy initiatives with which she was involved, took shape, apart from her rich personal experiences which were equally in the public domain. The session highlighted how childcare issues were put on the agenda and carried forward by the Mobile Crèches as also the Forces network set up in the FORCES in 1980s. **Mina Swaminathan** drew attention to the role Vina Mazumdar played in shaping her own perspective, particularly with reference to the linkage between women's concerns and child care issues. The next session focused on Early Childhood Education and the different aspects of quality in early childhood education, including the promotion of symbolic thinking, recognition of multiple intelligences and the role of male presence. **Adarsh Sharma**, steered the discussion on Brain Development Research: Implications for Practices in Early Childhood Care and Education. **T. S. Saraswathi**, from the Dept of Human Development, M.S. University, Baroda, chaired the session. **Rekha Sharma Sen** Professor, CECDR, Jamia Millia Islamia, discussed the challenges of Acquiring Literacy in Pre-primary and Class 1 in a Trilingual Environment. **Prof. Govinda**, Vice Chancellor, NUEPA, discussed the significance of the efforts made to put the Right to Education and Early Childhood Care and Education on the public agenda.

**Venita Kaul** from the School of Education Studies, Ambedkar University Delhi, drew attention to how Early Childhood Education: was a victim of what she called the Policy-Practice divide. **A.S. Padmavathy** Independent writer and film-maker, focused on early childhood education. In a session on Gender Issues in the social sectors there was an attempt to explore how gender analysis shifts our understanding of women's lives in its many dimensions vis-à-vis institutions of the state and society. **Vasanthi Raman** chaired the session where **Krishna Kumar** Professor,

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Delhi University spoke about Girls' socialisation in education systems and **Archana Mehendale**, Independent Researcher, presented a Critical review of the Right to Child Care in India. **L. S. Saraswathi**, Independent Researcher, shared her experience of a Gender Sensitisation Program amongst Rural Women In Tamil Nadu.

The next day began with a discussion on an area in which Mina Swaminathan has made a special contribution. **Tripurari Sharma**, Acting Director, National School of Drama, chaired the discussion on the use of theatre as education through communication and its role in enhancing critical awareness and the questioning of hegemonic discourses. The speakers included **Hanne M. de Bruin**, from Kattaikkuttu Sangam, who discussed Gender @ Crossroads; **V. Padma (Mangai)** from the Chennai Kalai Kuzhu, Shakthi, who addressed the challenge of Voicing Silence as a means to present Feminist Consciousness on the Stage; and **Sudhanva Deshpande**, from JANAM who shared his thoughts on Street Theatre as Pedagogy. In another session on **Gendering Research and Communication**, there were short presentations highlighting strategies for communicating and researching critical themes arising from a social and gender analysis. The experiences from Lok Doot, on the use of Theatre for Communication were also presented by **Jolly Rohatgi**. In a session chaired by **Anjana Mangalagiri**, from UNICEF, currently based in Bangladesh, **Sara Ahmed**, from IDRC, discussed the need to Engender research on food security if the challenges in the sphere of social change were to be addressed. The second half of the last day focused on issues of women and land from different locations and perspectives. **Nitya Rao**, Professor, Gender and Development, East Anglia, explored the Gendered Meanings of Land from cross cultural locations while **Amit Mitra**, independent researcher, focused on Methodological Issues faced while studying the gendered Impact of agrarian distress. **Kumud Sharma**, Chairperson, CWDS, took the discussion forward with regard to the Women's Movement: Contestations, Dilemmas and the politics of Engagement.

In the concluding session on Gender Issues in relation to land and environment, pending legislation on the rights of women farmers, their entitlements with respect to land and the larger context of the policy on agriculture were the subject of an open discussion. This was initiated by **M. S. Swaminathan** who drew upon his long experience of working in the field of Agriculture and Farmer's Rights. The session featured presentations by **Brinda Karat**, former MP, CPI(M) and **Govind Kelkar** from LANDESA.

The two day event provided an opportunity to reflect on issues that are today part of wide ranging discussions both in the women's movement and the child rights movement and especially also of entitlements to land. The event presented an opportunity to celebrate the life of a well known public figure whose work and contribution also reflect some of the key concerns that have guided CWDS's work through these decades.



- ❖ **Women in the Worlds of Labour: Interdisciplinary and Intersectional Perspectives**, Collaborative Seminar: co-organised by Meena Gopal (Advanced Centre for Women's Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai) and Mary E. John (CWDS), 21-22 February, 2014.

This two day collaborative seminar between the Centre for Women's Development Studies and the Advanced Centre for Women's Studies, TISS, was organised in TISS Mumbai with financial support from the ICSSR. It focussed on various dimensions related to women's labour, which in recent years has seen something of a revival of interest. However, much of this research is taking place in compartmentalised ways, whether by discipline, theme or perspective. The aim of the seminar was therefore to address this shortcoming by bringing together scholars and activists who have worked on different aspects of women's labour. It thereby hoped to demonstrate that only when the connections and intersections are in place can a better picture be obtained of the pervasive problems besetting women's labour in India, both historically and in the present.

The seminar opened with a welcome by Meena Gopal and an introduction to the aims of the seminar by Mary John. The first presentation by Samita Sen offered a historical perspective in her paper 'The debate that never was: Gender and class in Indian history'. She opened up critical conceptual issues in relation to how the categories of work, worker, working class, labour and the family have been (or have not been) brought into play in historical scholarship on women in India and therefore raised important questions for feminist scholarship today. In the next session, with Wandana Sonalkar as her respondent, Neetha N. provided a contemporary perspective on employment trends for women in her presentation 'The economy, social groups and gendered employment' in the last decades associated with globalisation. She provided an intricate map with the help of National Sample Survey data disaggregating women workers by caste and religious community, to show that social and cultural inequalities are having an ongoing impact within a sharply gendered labour market, including enclaves of domination by upper caste women in the modern sectors of the economy, and an overall reinforcement of caste and minority inequalities through marginalised and low status occupations. The next session focussed on rural India chaired by Chhaya Datar. Ranjana Padhi's paper looked at instances whereby women within subsistence economies in the state of Odisha have been able to resist contemporary forms of capitalist development, especially via land acquisition and the plunder of natural resources from this state. Amongst the conflicts she highlighted were those of adivasi-dalit tensions, and between migrant workers within the newly set up plants and local populations. Indrani Mazumdar's presentation dwelt on current trends in labour migration by women from rural areas, drawing attention to the prominence of agricultural labour, paid domestic work, construction and brick making – all characterised by hard manual labour, and corresponding patterns of labour units and labour contracts. She believed that such migration could only be understood in relation to the ongoing agrarian crisis and its class aspects.

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The next session chaired by Rohini Hensman, examined the spheres of domestic work, which occupies such a disproportionate space within the Indian scenario. Rajni Palriwala in her presentation 'Trajectories in the discourse of care: Accounting for domestic work' focussed on how issues of care need to be re-evaluated by the social sciences and state policy, whether in personal relations or public institutions if gender equality in paid work, livelihood and incomes is to be ensured. Bindhulakshmi P. in her presentation 'Negotiating intimate spaces: Home and the sense of belonging in the lives of migrant women domestic workers' looked at Kerala women's migration to Dubai as domestic workers in relation to their multiple migrations to and from 'home', and corresponding changes in their experience of domesticity. The last session of the day was a panel on Dalit women and labour chaired by Padma Velaskar. Sameena Dalwai's presentation was about the women bar dancers in Mumbai, most of whom are from so-called lower castes and working classes, whose upward mobility and access to 'easy money' in this occupation was effectively cut short by the ban, such that the state's action effectively reinstated an older caste-class status quo. Shaileshkumar Darokar spoke on 'Dalit women, dehumanised labour and struggles for dignity' to show the confinement of Dalit women in the most degraded jobs such as manual scavenging, apart from other menial and dead-end jobs, that makes the intersections of caste, class and gender so hard to struggle against. Meena Gopal in her presentation 'Caste, sexuality and labour: the troubled connection for us' reflected on the many dimensions and challenges that have characterised dialogue across movements when the caste and sexual aspects of women's work become visible. Dalit feminists, socialist feminists, queer feminists and, more recently, sex worker organisations in Maharashtra have been engaging in these protracted discussions, and only further dialogue can take these issues forward.

The second day of the seminar chaired by Nirmala Banerjee opened with a session devoted to examining women's work in specific sectors – in manufacturing, as women teachers, as anganwadi workers and in sex work. Madhumita Datta in her study of women workers in a global mobile phone manufacturing factory in Tamil Nadu explored young women's experiences on the shop floor, reflecting on the contrast between their ability to manoeuvre between work and personal spaces, against their 'incapacity' to participate in union work. Nandini Manjrekar focussed on the large number of school teachers who are women in the context of their current expansion, arguing for a better understanding of the relations between their professional and personal lives under neo-liberal conditions. M.S. Sreerekha looked at the status of anganwadi workers in terms of their history and current status within the state's ICDS scheme, highlighting the problems with the meaning of voluntary social work for poor women who are the backbone of the paid labour force in the country. Apoorva Kaiwar argued that sex work and sexual labour more broadly are in need of reconceptualisation, away from notions of choice, and also away from notions of 'one worker one occupation' so that such workers and their efforts at organising can be better heard in an economic context characterised by widespread exploitation and wage theft.

The next session, chaired by Asha Achuthan, had cultural labour as its theme. Sandali Thakur in her paper 'Understanding cultural labour: Gender, caste and nation in Mithila Art' provided an account of the Mithila painting tradition in the new context of its entry into a global art market, promotion of Maithil nationalism in Bihar, and the presence of upper caste and lower caste women artists in this complex terrain. Geeta Thatra's paper 'Courtesans of Bombay (1936-2013): 'Cultural' or 'Sexual' Labour?' reflected on the many questions surrounding mujra performances in Bombay – in relation to notions of livelihood, to distinctions between cultural and sexual labour, and the inroads of real estate development in urban renewal. The following session chaired by Svati Shah on queering labour and gender, began with a presentation by Sunil Mohan and Sumathi M. They opened up issues of gender, labour and dignity in relation to questions of class and caste, focussing especially on the position of hijras and transpersons. Queering labour becomes a multi-layered process, whether involving role reversals, considering only certain forms of labour as appropriate, or just being able to sustain employment in a hostile world. Rinchin in her presentation 'Asking questions: Queer labour in a straight world' explored problems of labour in both 'public' and 'private' realms, through concrete exemplars such as a person who in male attire is able to obtain male wages at a coolie site; housework and family care by those not in the institution of marriage; and finally the lack of acknowledgement of queer people's activism on 'their' issues in spite of long years of participation in broader movements. The concluding session chaired by Sharit Bhowmik focussed on issues related to organising women workers. J.Devika in her presentation looked at the Kudumbashree network of Self-help groups in Kerala which has enjoyed considerable political autonomy and discusses whether the focus on livelihoods and employment changes how they organise as women, within a prior social welfare model. Sonia George discussed the urgent need for new forms of organising in Kerala in the context of becoming an invisible outsourcing location for the manufacturing and assembling of products, much of which is home-based and does not disturb the domesticity of women. Kiran Moghe dwelt on the experiences of AIDWA in the city of Pune which began with organising very specific workers such as hospital nurses and ayahs, home based workers, anganwadi and domestic workers and the possibilities of creating a more integrated platform for socio-economic transformation. Sujata Gothoskar focussed on the different forms of stigma experienced by women in the work that they do, with the exception of white collar jobs, and therefore explored whether it could become a rallying point for building alliances across different sectors.

The seminar was very well attended. It highlighted a wide range of issues in relation to women and their many labours and offered some examples of the way forward.

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**Capturing Women's Lives and Change in a City in Transition**, in collaboration with India International Centre, New Delhi featured **A Series of Interactive Conversations on women's experiences in Delhi** with the following:

- ◆ The Early years after independence and girls' education: Kamlesh Jacob, Retired Principal, Queen Mary's School, Delhi, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2013.
- ◆ Asserting Autonomy: Women Academics in Higher Education: Nirmala Jain, Professor, Dept. of Hindi, University of Delhi, Mohini Anjum, Professor, Department of Sociology, Jamia Milia Islamia, Romila Thapar, Emeritus Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 16th August 2013.
- ◆ Memories of Growing Up in Post-Partition India: Rami Chhabra, media person and activist, and Babli Gupta, Broadcaster & activist, formerly with University of Delhi, 12th September 2013.
- ◆ Living a Past: The Challenge of Carrying Forward a City's Heritage and Tradition. Usha Dayal Kumar, Advocate and Cultural Activist in conversation, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2013.
- ◆ Labour, Culture and Politics: Experiences and Histories of Working Class Women in Delhi. Shyamkali and Sushila, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013.
- ◆ Being Friends: Crossing Boundaries: Amina Kidwai and Mohini Bahl, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013.
- ◆ Civil Lines, Inner Wheel Clubs and Changing Delhi: Minna Kapur and Purnima Narayan, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2014.
- ◆ Women and Performance: Experiences from Delhi: with Shubha Mudgal and Moloysree Hashmi, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2014.
- ◆ Building Bonds? Experiences in an Expanding Delhi: A discussion between the voices from North-East India and Kerala: Tiplut Nongbri, Professor, Centre for Study in Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and Nafise, self made Entrepreneur, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2014.

### International Visitors at CWDS

A Delegation from **Shanghai Women's Federation, China**, visited the Centre on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2014. An interactive session on "Women's Health and Education especially among the underprivileged in big cities like Delhi, was held with the Faculty. The members of the delegation were: Ms Tian Xiong, Associate Counsel, Shanghai Women's Federation, Managing Deputy Director, Office of General Affairs, Shanghai Municipal Committee on Women and Children Affairs; Mr. Li Shanguo, Chief, Woman and Child Health Care Division, Shanghai Health and Family Planning Committee; Member of Evaluation Committee of Shanghai Municipal Committee on Women and Children's Affairs; Ms. Ge Yingmin, Chief, Right and Interest Department, Shanghai Women's

Federation; Ms. Lu Chunping, Chair, Shanghai Baoshan District Women's Federation; Ms. Yuan Wenjun, Vice Chair, Shanghai Chongming County Women's Federation; Ms. Huang Chenhong, Staff Member, Shanghai Women's Federation.

### **CWDS Seminar Series**

Co-ordinator N. Neetha

- ◆ *Dalit Women between Social and Analytical Alternity: Rethinking the 'Quintessentially Marginal'* by Manuela Ciotti, Assistant Professor in Global Studies at Aarhus University, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2013.
- ◆ *'Son Preference and Reproductive Decision-making in Rural South India'* by Dr. Birgitte Bruun Nielsen, Associate Professor, Faculty of Health, University of Aarhus, Denmark, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013.
- ◆ *'Women's Access to Property in early Twentieth Century Garhwal Himalayas'* by Rashmi Pant, Fellow, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2013.
- ◆ *'The Image Economy: Commercial Surrogates'* by Prof. Kumkum Sangari, William F. Vilas Research Professor of English and the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.



# CWDS *annual report 2013-14*



## Faculty Participation and Publications

CWDS faculty members and Library and Research staff participate in several seminars, workshops and conferences each year. This includes paper presentations, participation as resource persons, in other capacities and offers a platform for dissemination of ideas emerging from on-going as well as published research. Faculty members deliver lectures and participate in activities cutting across a wide range of institutional locations. They are also members of various Committees and advisory bodies. The table below provides a quick summary of some of these activities with more specific details being given below.

This is in addition to organising and participating in CWDS' own activities.

### Summary of Publications and Seminar Participation by Faculty Members

	Books/ Reports/ Edited Vols./ CWDS Journals	Articles in Journals	Book Reviews	Chapters in Books/ Reports	Paper Presentation in Conferences/ Seminars/ Lectures	Other Participation in Seminar/ Conferences
Total	6	19	3	10	109	63

### Articles in Journals

#### Anshu Singh

- 'Women's Mobility and Migration: an exploratory study of Muslim women migrants in Jamia Nagar, Delhi' (Meenakshi Thapan, Anshu Singh and Nidhitha Sreekumar) Special Article in *Economic and Political Weekly*, 7 June, 2014.
- Development and Assessment of Effectiveness of Self Learning Module on HIV/AIDS and Education (Anshu Singh) in *Edu Explorer: the Journal of Education*, Volume 1, No.3 January 2014-June 2014.

**Bijoya Roy**

- 'Restructuring and Shifting Boundaries: What does it mean for Maternal Health Care?' *Samyukta*, 2013 (forthcoming).

**Dimple Tresa Abraham**

- 'CSR and Empowerment of Women: The Way Forward', *AIMA Journal of Management and Research*, Vol.7, No.1/4, ISSN 0974-497, 2013.

**Indrani Mazumdar**

- 'Women's Work, Employment and the Indian Economy' in *Voice of the Working Woman*, May, 2013.
- 'The widening Gender Gap in Employment' in *Yojana* issue on "Growth, Employment & Poverty" October, 2013.

**Indu Agnihotri**

- 'Remembering Lotika Sarkar (1923-2013)' in *Economic and Political Weekly*, 48(20); 18 May, 2013. p. 25-28.
- 'Catalyst for women's struggle' in *Frontline*, 30(12); 15-28 June 2013. p.123-125.
- 'Telling the Story of Organisation' in *Women's Equality*. No. 3-4; July-December 2013. p.31.

**Mary E. John**

- 'The Problem of Women's Labour: Some Autobiographical Perspectives', Special Issue on Labour, Gender and Social Reproduction edited by Meena Gopal, *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, vol.20, no.2, June 2013: 177-212.
- 'Issues before the Women's Movement: A Workshop Report' *IAWS Newsletter*, vol. III, no. 1, October 2013: 5-8.
- 'Feminist Concepts in Time and Space: Perspectives from India', 18<sup>th</sup> Radhakrishnan Memorial Lecture, Shimla: *Indian Institute of Advanced Studies*, 2014.

**Nayantara Singh**

- 'Women and Access to Credit: Micro Finance Perspectives' in *National News: National Journal of Ideas*, Vol.3, No.1. ISSN-2319-4367, Oct.2013.

**Neetha N.**

- 'The Home Truth', *Indian Express*, Special Article, Thursday, April 11, 2013.
- 'Begin at Home', *Indian Express*, Special Article, November 22, 2013.
- 'Paid Domestic Work: Making Sense of the Jigsaw Puzzle', *Economic and Political Weekly, Review of Women Studies*, Vol – XLVIII, No. 43, October 26, 2013.
- 'Minimum Wages for Domestic Work: Mirroring Devalued Housework', *Economic and Political Weekly, Review of Women Studies*, Vol - XLVIII No. 43, October 26, 2013.

**Vijay Kumar Jha**

- Women's Studies: An Introductory Note – Vani *Prakashan Magazine*.
- Understanding Patriarchy – *Hindisamay.com*.

**Chapters in Book****Anshu Singh**

- Terrorized Spaces of Delhi: Batla House Now and Then (Anshu Singh) in *Annuaire Roumain d'anthropologie* special issue on Social Exclusion in India: Critical Ethnographic Discourse from the Margins, Tom 50, 2013.

**Dimple Tresa Abraham**

- S.S. Kalamkar and Dimple Tresa Abraham (2013), "Micro-Enterprises of SHGs and Challenges to Continuity", In Mor. S (Ed.), *Microfinance and Micro entrepreneurship*, Vista International Publishing House, New Delhi, pp.153-62. ISBN 978-93-81604-78-6.

**Indrani Mazumdar**

- 'Women's Labour Migration in India', (in English and German) in Sara Poma & Katharina Puhl (ed.) *Perspectives on Asian Migration: Transformation of Gender and Labour Relations*, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, Berlin, 2014.

**Indu Agnihotri**

- 'Gendering Social Analysis, Contextualising Gender: Women in Neoliberal India' – chapter in Social Development Report, 2012, CSD, OUP. pp.83-101.

**Mary E. John**

- "Family and Marriage through the Lens of Labour and Gender" (in Chinese) ed. Wei Guoying *Essays from Asian Women's Forum: Gender Equality and Women's Development*, Beijing: Peking University Press, 2013, pp.118-215.
- "Reframing Globalisation and Internationalism: Feminisms in India and the Question of Asia", *Women's Studies in India: The last Twenty Five years*, ed. Manjeet Bhatia et al, Rawat Publications, New Delhi, 2014, pp.104-121.
- "Gender Discrimination beyond Violence against Women" *Malayala Manorama Yearbook* 2014, pp. 809-814.

**Neetha N.**

- 'Persistent Inequalities and Deepened Burden of Work? An Analysis of Women's Employment in Delhi' in *Women Workers in Metro Cities of India*, eds. by Saraswati Raju & Santosh Jatrana. (Forthcoming).
- 'Minimum Wage Setting Practices in Domestic Work: An Inter-State Analysis', *Working Paper, International Labour Organisation*, New Delhi.

**Seema Kazi**

- South Asia's Gendered Wars on Terror in Rawwida Baksh and Wendy Harcourt (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Transnational Feminist Movements* (New York: Oxford University Press).

**Book Reviews****Mary E. John**

- "The Little Red Book of Feminism?" Review of Nivedita Menon *Seeing Like a Feminist*, New Delhi: Zubaan and Penguin, 2012, in *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol.48, May 4<sup>th</sup> 2013, pp. 24-28.
- "Manu, Flaw Giver", Book review of *Against the Madness of Manu: B.R. Ambedkar's Writings on Brahmanical Patriarchy* edited and introduced by Sharmila Rege, New Delhi: Navayana Publications, 2013, in *Outlook*, July 8<sup>th</sup> 2013, pp.67-68.

**Shalu Nigam**

- 'Harvesting Feminist Knowledge for Public Policy: Rebuilding Progress', in Devaki Jain and Diane Elson (Eds.) Sage Publications, *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*. (Forthcoming).

## Paper Presentations and Lectures

### Anshu Singh

- *'Changes of Spaces Changes in lives Marriage and Conflict in the Context of the Lives of Women in Jamia Nagar'* in Subtheme 9 on 'Women, Peace and Security in India' in IAWS National Conference, Guwahati, 4-7 February 2014.
- *'Moving in a Social Movement and Beyond: Literally and Metaphorically'* in the National Conference on "Social Movements and Inclusive Development: Contestations, Contradictions and Challenges", organised by the University of Pondicherry, Pondicherry, 5-6 March 2014.
- *'Ghettoisation of Language in Academic Spaces'* in SCONLI, organised by University of Kashmir, Kashmir-26 March, 2014.
- Bhaswati Thakurta
- *'From Development Induced Displacement to the Verge of Migration- A Case study of Displaced Santali Women in Bankura district of West Bengal'* Presented at 'Social Science Congress (Northern Region)' organised by ICSSR at the Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur, 3-5 April, 2013.
- *'Gender Perspective of Participatory Forest Management in India'* Presented at 'Junior Research Seminar' organised by Corpus Research Institute at Jadavpur University, Kolkata, 5-6 July 2013.
- *'The Comparative Analysis of Forest Management Policies between Post -Independence India and Post-Revolutionary China: Understanding the Community Participation through Gender Lens'*, presented at the 'Third Emerging Scholars Symposium on India China Studies' organised by India China Institute, New School, New York and Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi at the University of Calcutta, Kolkata, 7-8 November 2013.
- *'Gender in Disaster Management: A Comparative Analysis between India and Japan'* at the International Conference on 'The Role of Civil Society in Disaster Management' organised by the Japan Foundation and Sammuthan Foundation at Indian International Centre, New Delhi, 17-8 February 2014.
- *'Women in Forest Protection Committees : A Case Study of Brindabanpur and Tribanka Forest Protection Committee in Bankura District of West Bengal'* Presented at the National Conference on 'Developmental Imperatives; The Role of Gender' organised by Doon University, Dehradun, 22-23 February 2014.

**Bijoya Roy**

- *'Public Sector Diagnostic Services: Evidence from India'* presented at the Second National Conference of Health Economic Association of India, SRM University, Chennai, 29–31 May, 2013.
- *'Maternal Health Care through Public Private Partnership: Examining through Gender Lens'* presented at National Conference on National Rural Health Mission: A Review of Past Performance & Future Directions, Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, 6–8 August, 2013.

**Dimple Tresa Abraham**

- *Initiative of CWDS with respect to Women's Land Rights* at the Round Table Conference on Women and Land, Landesa-Oxfam, India International Centre, New Delhi, August 2-3, 2013.
- 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics titled *Women in Self Employment: A Choice out of Necessity?* in the technical session on *Social Inclusion and the labour market*, JNU, December 16-18, 2013.

**Gayatri Panda**

- *Mothers in Schooling Process: A Study of Micro-mothering Activities and Children's Schooling Achievements in a Village in Odisha* at the XIV National Conference of the IAWS held in Guwahati, Assam, 4-7 February, 2014.

**Indrani Mazumdar**

- *'Trends in Women's Labour Migration'* at CWDS *National Workshop on Women's Work, Employment and the Indian Economy*, New Delhi, 26-27 April 2013.
- *'Tracking Women's Labour Migration in India'* at *Regional Consultation on Migration in South Asia*, Care International, New Delhi, 30-31 July, 2013.
- *'Some Issues related to Caste and Gender in Women's Labour Migration in India'* at *Conference on Gender and Migration: Negotiating Questions around Structure and Agency* School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, in collaboration with RLS, Kolkata, 22 – 23 August 2013.
- *'Women and Migration (India)'* at *International Workshop on Feminist Economics in China and India*, IIC, New Delhi, 11-13 November, 2013.



- *'Women Excluded? Examining Gendered Trends in Employment'* at the 55th Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics, JNU, Delhi, 16-18 December, 2013.
- *'A Gendered View of 'Rural' Labour Migration in Contemporary India'* at the Tenth anniversary conference of the Foundation for Agrarian Studies, 9-12 January, 2014, Kochi.
- *'Gendered patterns of Labour Migration in Rural India'* at CWDS-TISS collaborative seminar, *Women in the Worlds of Labour: Interdisciplinary and Intersectional Perspectives*, Mumbai, February 21-22, 2014.
- *'Women and Work: Contributions from Women's Studies'* Lecture at Course on *Research Methods in Work, Gender and Health*, V. V. Giri National Labour Institute, NOIDA, 3-14 March 2014.
- *Women's Employment in 21st Century India'* at *National Seminar on Future of Women's Studies in India In Memory of Prof. Vina Mazumdar*, Calcutta University WSRC, Kolkata, March 25 – 26, 2014.

### Indu Agnihotri

- Panelist, International Conference on *'Empowerment of Women in the Developing World'*, Shivaji College, University of Delhi, 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2013.
- *Women and Violence: Contemporary Challenges*, Swami Shraddhanand Memorial Lecture, Shraddhanand College, University of Delhi, 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2013.
- *'Women's Work and the Crisis of Capitalism'* at *National Workshop on Women's Work, Employment and the Indian Economy*, Organised and supported by ICSSR, New Delhi, 26-27 April 2013.
- Chair, Inaugural Session, Education for Social Change: Multi Disciplinary Perspectives, IIC, New Delhi, 30-31 August, 2013.
- Dialogue with Mina Swaminathan, in a workshop on "Education for Social Change: Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives", in collaboration with Uttara Devi Resource Centre for Gender and Development, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) at India International Centre, New Delhi, August 30-31, 2013.
- Inaugural Address focusing on Women's Studies: an interface with Disability, in Workshop on Disability Studies, Gender and Subjectivity, Regional Workshop organised by IAWS with Ambedkar University, 31 August, 2013.
- Chair, Session on Interventions in Health and Population Policies, in *From margins to the Centre - the Study of Reproductive Health in India, 1977-2000*, JNU & the Univ. of Warwick, JNU, Delhi, 16 September, 2013.

- Lecture on Women and History: Questions of Method, in Workshop on Research Methodology in Women's Studies, organised by CWDS-MGAHV, Wardha, 24 September, 2013.
- Lecture on Women's Studies and Women's Movement in India, Research Methodology Workshop, jointly conducted by MGAHV, Wardha and CWDS, 25 September, 2013.
- Valedictory Session on Essays on Caste, Class, Exploitation and Emancipation in Research Methodology Workshop, jointly conducted by MGAHV, Wardha and CWDS, 23-29 September, 2013.
- Chair, Panel Discussion on the occasion of Book Launch of Mythily Sivaraman's 'Haunted by Fire', Tulika Books, IIC, New Delhi, 30 September, 2013.
- Lecture on 'Contemporary Challenges before the Women's Movement' in Training Workshop for members of State Women's Commission, National Commission for Women, 4 October, 2013.
- Chair and Panelist for Book Launch, 'Gender and Neoliberalism', AIDWA and Globalisation Politics, Ambedkar University Delhi and Tulika Books, UN Women, Delhi, 19 October, 2013.
- In Conversation with Devaki Jain, with Urvashi Butalia on the occasion of celebrating Devaki Jain - 80 years, feminist, activist, lobbyist, economist, writer. Founding Member of the Development Alternatives for Women for a New Era (DAWN), organised by ISST, IDRC, IAWS, and Zubaan, 18 November, 2013, IIC New Delhi.
- Keynote Address for Workshop on Feminist Theories and Debates, Women's Studies and Development Centre, University of Delhi, 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2013, New Delhi.
- Panelist on Women's Concerns and Child rights: Frameworks and Issues, organised by India Alliance for child Rights' workshop in memory of Prof. Vina Mazumdar, 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2013.
- Lecture on the Women's Movement, in the Refresher Course in Women's Studies, CPDHE, Delhi University, 23 December, 2013.
- Chair, 'Session on Oval Narratives' Sub-theme 8, XIV National Conference on Women's Studies, 'Equality, Pluralism and the State: Perspectives from the Women's Movement', Organised by IAWS, at Guwahati University, Guwahati, 6 February 2014.
- Coordinator, Special Session on "Looking to the Future: Women's Status, Sex Ratio and Contemporary Challenges" XIV National Conference on Women's Studies, 'Equality, Pluralism and the State: Perspectives from the Women's Movement', Organised by IAWS, Guwahati University, Guwahati, 4-7th February 2014.

- Keynote Address in Seminar on Women's Empowerment, Issues, Challenges and Strategies, organised by Dept. of Social Work, BPS Women's University, Khanpur Kalan, Sonapat, 21 February, 2014.
- Valedictory Address and Chair for session on Violence in the National Conference on Development Imperatives: the Role of Gender, Doon University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, 22-23 February, 2014.
- 'Gender, Politics and the Middle Class' in a Seminar on Locating Gender in the New Middle Class in South Asia, organised by WSDC, University of Delhi and IAS, Shimla, 11-13 March, 2014.
- Keynote address delivered on the Future of Women's Studies in India, National Seminar in memory of Prof. Vina Mazumdar, organised by Women's Studies Research Centre, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, 25 -26 March 2014.
- Interviewed by Newsclick on Contribution of Prof Vina Mazumdar, Discussions on Rajya sabha TV, CNN and Doordarshan.
- Coordinator, Delhi-Capturing Women's lives and Change in a City in Transition – A conversation series to document oral Narratives

### Mary E. John

- "Between Welfare and Politics: Gender and Political Representation", Seminar, Department of Political Science, Delhi University, 10 April, 2013.
- "Gendered Intersectionalities in Higher Education", National Conference on Education – For what and for whom? OKD Institute of Social and Economic Change, Guwahati, 10-12 April 2013.
- "Retheorising Class and the Question of Stigma", Workshop on Capital, Class and Culture, Chao Centre for Asian Studies, Rice University, Houston, May 17-19<sup>th</sup> 2013.
- "Gender and Violence" presentation at Workshop on Gender and Education in Society, Sardar Patel Vidyalyaya, New Delhi, 26-27 June, 2013.
- "The Emergency, Democracy and the State", Plenary Panel 'States of Emergency', Inter Asia Cultural Studies Society Conference, National University of Singapore, Singapore, 3-5 July, 2013.
- "Perspectives on Rape: History, Events and the Women's Movement" inaugural presentation, Negotiating Spaces: Fine tuning our demand for Rape law Reform, Majlis, Mumbai, 10-11 August, 2013.

- "Thinking about Gender Today" Informal Discussion Group, St. Stephen's College, Delhi, 14 August, 2013.
- "A Gender Critique of Socialisation Processes in Indian Society", double lecture, Refresher course in Sociology, Academic Staff College, JNU, 3 September, 2013.
- "Gender and Sex Selection", double lecture, Capacity Building Course in the Social Sciences, M.D. University Rohtak, 24 September, 2013.
- "Caste and Feminism during the era of 'backlash'", Panel discussion, Dalit Feminism: Challenges and Goals (in Hindi), Journal Strikaal and All India Backward Students Association, JNU Auditorium, 24 September, 2013.
- "Feminism and Marxism", Invited Lecture, Centre for the Study of Social Systems, JNU, 17 October, 2013.
- "Politics of Research", "Gender in Research", double lecture, Capacity Building for Faculty in the Social Sciences, Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow, 22 October, 2013.
- "Rethinking Violence against Women", Public Lecture, LILA PRISM Series, Alliance Francaise, New Delhi, 11 November, 2013.
- "Declining Sex Ratios and Development Paradigms", presentation at International Workshop on Feminist Economists in China and India, IIC, 11-12 November, 2013.
- "Caste and Gender—a Necessary or Contingent Relationship?" Discrimination, Citizenship and Equality: Interrogations and Contestations, Orientation Programme: Scheduled Castes and other Marginalised Groups, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata, 18-22 November, 2013.
- "Sexual Violence and the Women's Movement: Perspectives and Challenges", Law and Society: Gender and Sexuality Conference, National Law School University of India, Bengaluru, 29-30 November, 2013.
- "Globalisation and Gender", Lecture, Workshop on Feminist Theories and Debates, Women's Studies and Development Centre, Delhi University, Delhi, 2-5 December, 2013.
- "A Silent Revolution? Women and Higher Education in Contemporary India", Keynote Address, National Seminar on Gender and Education: Colonial and Postcolonial Contexts, 100 years of Women's Education, CMS College Kottayam, Kerala, 12-13 December, 2013.
- "Reading the Emergency: Some Reflections on the Legibility of the Political", Political Imaginaries: Rethinking India's Twentieth Century, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, American Institute of Indian Studies, New Delhi, 10-11 January, 2014.

- "Feminist Concepts in Time and Space: Perspectives from India", 18<sup>th</sup> Radhakrishnan Memorial Lecture, Indian Institute of Advanced Study Shimla, delivered at Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, 31 January, 2014.
- "Gender Sensitisation and Sexual Harassment in Institutions of Higher Education: Reflections from the UGC Task Force, Sub theme on Education, Equality, Pluralism and the State: Perspectives from the Women's Movement, 14<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Indian Association of Women's Studies, University of Guwahati, Assam, 3-7 February, 2014.
- "The Ethics and Politics of Theorising Experience: A Feminist Response", Conference on Understanding Emancipation Today: Theory. Philosophy. Politics. English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, 19-21 February, 2014.
- "The Problem of Women's Labour", Introduction to Conference, Women's Worlds of Labour: Interdisciplinary and Intersectional Perspectives, CWDS and TISS, TISS Bombay, 21-22 February, 2014.
- "Caste and Feminism", Lecture, Research Methods Workshop on Caste and Marginalisation, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, 27 February, 2014.
- "Rethinking Sexuality and Violence", Plenary Lecture, Gender Congress, Lady Sri Ram College, 5-7 March, 2014.
- "Sex Ratios and Sex Selection: Conundrums and Impasses", Seminar, Centre for the Study of Social Medicine and Community Health, JNU, 13 March, 2014.
- "Women and Political Representation", Refresher Course Lecture in Women's Studies, CPDHE, Delhi University, 14 March, 2014.
- "A Silent Revolution? Gender, Intersectionalities and Sexual Harassment in University Campuses Today, First Mukta Salve Public Lecture in Memory of Sharmila Rege, University of Pune, Pune, 21 March, 2014.

#### Neetha N.

- 'Women's Employment Challenges', Gender and Development panel, ICSSR Northern Regional Centre & IDS, Jaipur. 4 April, 2013,
- '*Social Groups, Gender and Employment*', National Workshop on Women's Work, Employment and the Indian Economy, Centre for Women's Development Studies (CWDS), New Delhi, 26-27 April, 2013.
- '*Setting Minimum Wages for Domestic Work: The Indian Experience, Asian Knowledge-Sharing Forum: Realising Decent Work for Domestic Workers*', Bangkok, Thailand, 24 to 26 April, 2013.

- 'Implementation of Maternity Benefit Act: Challenges in the unorganised sector', Consultation on Maternity Benefit Act, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, 2 July, 2013.
- '*Comprehending the Growth of Domestic Workers in India: The Gender, Class and Caste Intersections*', Fifth International Community, Work and Family Conference: Changes and Challenges in a Globalising Economy, University of Sydney, Australia, 17-19, July, 2013.
- '*Minimum Wage Setting Practices and Domestic Workers: An Inter-state Analysis*', National Knowledge sharing Workshop on Improving Protection for Domestic Workers: 'Minimum wage Setting and Extending RSBY Coverage', ILO, Hyderabad, 25-26 July, 2013.
- '*Women as Paid and Unpaid workers, International Workshop on Feminist Economics in China and India*', Economic Research Foundation, IIC, New Delhi, 11-13 November, 2013.
- 'Interactive meeting on Employment Challenges in India', Yamuna Conference Room, ILO Office, ILO. 26 November 2013.
- 'Problems faced by Women Domestic Workers', Stree Mukti Sangathan, Tiwari Bhavan, New Delhi, 7 December, 2013.
- '*Negotiating the Market: Women's Employment across Social Groups*', 55th Annual Conference of Indian Society of Labour Economics, JNU, 16-18 December, 2013.
- '*Working Conditions of Domestic Workers*, Seminar on Working Environment for Women Workers: Issues of Safety and Dignity', All India Working Women Forum, Parliament Annexe, New Delhi, 10-11 January, 2014.
- 'Discussion on 'Women and Work, Debating the Women Question'', Miranda House College, Delhi University, Delhi, 3 February, 2014.
- Discussion on 'Work like any other? Accounting for domestic work in India', Media Interaction, Press club, New Delhi, Organised by Inclusive Media for Change and CSDS, 19 February, 2014.
- '*Crisis in Female Employment: Analysis across Social Groups; Women in the Worlds of Labour: Interdisciplinary and Intersectional Perspective*', Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi and Advanced Centre for Women's Studies, School of Development Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, 21-22 February, 2014.
- 'Work & Employment', LASI Technical Advisory Committee, National Institute of Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW), 19-20 March, 2014.

**Renu Addlakha**

- *Gender Studies and Disability Studies: Connections and Departures*. Ambedkar University, Delhi and Indian Association of Women's Studies Association, New Delhi, Ambedkar University, Delhi. 1 September 2013.
- *UNCRPD and CEDAW*, Workshop on Intersecting CEDAW and UNCRPD organised by Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre (Bhubaneswar, Orissa). New Delhi: International Youth Hostel, 18 September 2013.
- *Gender Analysis of Disability with particular reference to spinal cord injury*. National conference of Rehabilitation of Persons with Spinal Cord Injury. New Delhi: Scope Complex, 25-26 November 2013.
- *Disability and Social Exclusion: Conflation and Intersectionality in the Contours of Oppression with particular reference to contemporary India*, International workshop on addressing multiple exclusions. Centre for the Study of Social exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Banaras Hindu University: 6-12 January 2014.
- *Gender Accessibility and Employment*. Seminar on 'Deconstructing Disability', Miranda House, University of Delhi, 17 January 2014.

**Sandeep Mishra**

- "Rural Labour in India: An Analysis of Present Trend" in 55<sup>th</sup> National Conference organised by Centre for Economic Studies and Planning(CESP), JNU and The Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE), Institute of Human Development, New Delhi 16-18 December, 2013.

**Savitri Ray**

- Presented ICDS restructure model in Rajasthan FORCES Meeting, Udaipur, April 29- 30, 2013.
- Conducted FORCES working group meeting at CRSC, Dehradun, May 6-7, 2013.
- Conducted FORCES core group meeting on Developing FORCES Operational Plan at CWDS, New Delhi, June 6-8, 2013.
- Presentation made in Bihar FORCES State Workshop, Patna, June 19-20, 2013.
- Presentation made in FORCES State Workshop organised by MCM, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, June 25, 2013.
- Conducted Gender Training Workshop, Azad Foundation, Gurgaon, July 25-27, 2013.
- Presented FORCES Plan of Action at PI office, Kailash Colony, November 5, 2013.



- Discussion meeting on FORCES Expansion, presented FORCES vision and mission, CINI, Kolkata, December 17, 2013.
- Conducted Planning Meeting and Investigator Training, Lucknow, Feb. 5-6, 2014.
- Speaker at Gender Resource Centre, Mongolpuri, February 11, 2014.
- Organised FORCES Training Workshop on Research Methodology and Project Management, ILD, Jaipur, February 26, and March 1, 2014.

**Seema Kazi**

- 'Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones: South Asia', Department of Political Science, University of Kashmir, Hazratbal, Srinagar, 4 February, 2014.

**Shalu Nigam**

- 'Sexual Harassment at the Work Place: A Social Perspective' in the Workshop on Sexual Harassment at Work Place organised by AIWC, IIC, New Delhi, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2013.

**Participation in Workshops/Seminars/Conferences****Indu Agnihotri**

- Tenth National Conference on '*Confronting neo liberalism, Fighting Conservatism, Combating Communalism, We assert our right to a violence free society*' organised by AIDWA, Bodh Gaya, 24-25 November, 2013.
- Participant invitee, Round table on Women's Economic Empowerment, UN Women and IDRC, 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2013.

**Neetha N.**

- Women's Social Security and Protection in India, Organised by PWESCR, ISI, New Delhi, 6-7 May, 2013.
- MGNREGS and Children: A Study of U.P. & Tamil Nadu, Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi and ILO, India International Centre, New Delhi. 11 June, 2013.
- Women and Work, Gender issues in our country" and "Pedagogical and sensitisation issues concerning teaching and working with young student, Sardar Patel Vidhyalaya, 27th June, 2013.

- UNRISD Methodology Workshop, Project on Understanding Gender Egalitarian Policy Change for a Post 2015 Development Agenda Ford Foundation, New Delhi, 22-24 August, 2013.
- Do we understand what drives female participation in rural and urban India? Insights from Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh, ILO-IAMR, Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi, 18 November, 2013.
- Placement Agencies meeting on Regulation of Placement Agencies for Domestic Workers in India, Organised by ILO, Claridges Hotel, New Delhi, 27 November, 2013.

**Savitri Ray**

- National Workshop on Improving Quality of Life of Children organised by Plan India, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, August 27, 2013.
- Education for Social Change: Multi-disciplinary Perspectives organized by CWDS & MSSRF, IIC, New Delhi, August 30-31 2013.
- International summit on Empowerment of Rural women, organized by AIWC and CSD, IIC, New Delhi, September 2-3, 2013.
- Inter-regional workshop on Gender-Biased Sex Selection, organized by UNFPA, The Claridges, New Delhi November 11-13, 2013.
- National seminar on Child Well being and the State organised by CSD, IIC, New Delhi, November 18, 2013.
- RTE strategies for Delhi meeting at CSD, Lodi estate, New Delhi, January 13, 2014.
- Citizen's country meeting on Children of the Republic: Stocktaking & Forward Planning, IIC, New Delhi, organised by IACR, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014.
- National stocktaking meeting on Children's India: securing rights, Organised by IACR. IIC, New Delhi, January 21-22, 2014.
- National consultation on Strengthening Statutory Institutions for socially excluded group organised by PACS/ PRIA, IHC, New Delhi, Feb.13, 2014
- National convention on Right to Education, organised by RTE Forum, VP House, New Delhi, March 13, 2014

**Seema Kazi**

- Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones: Second Roundtable Post-Research workshop held at IDRC, New Delhi 14-15 April, 2014.

- Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones: Roundtable discussion with students and researchers, Hazratbal, Srinagar, 4 February. 2014.
- Panelist, National Roundtable Conference: Strengthening Interfaces for Promoting People Centric Governance in Kashmir, India Islamic Centre, 6 February 2014.
- South Asian Women's Public meeting on Women Peace and Security organised by UN Women, SAFHR and IDRC, 26 February 2014.
- Discussant, South Asian Justice Project, IDRC, New Delhi, 28 June 2014.

### **Other Participations**

#### **Bijoya Roy**

- Workshop on 'Promoting Patients' Rights and Ensuring Social Accountability and Rationalisation of Care in the Private Medical Sector', organised by SAMA, New Delhi, 25-26 October, 2013.
- Co-taught the Course on Dialogue with Researchers for M Phil / Ph.D. Programme in Women's and Gender Studies, CWDS-AUD, for Semester II, 2014.

#### **Dimple Tresa Abraham**

- Awarded Ph.D. in Economics, from the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune, for the thesis *Performance of Enterprises of SHG Entrepreneurs*.

#### **Indrani Mazumdar**

- Prepared Book plan of 9 chapters jointly with N. Neetha and Indu Agnihotri that has been accepted by a reputed academic publisher under the working title '*A Developing Story: Gender and Migration in India*' and presently working on the manuscript. Undertook revisit of migration study sites in Ganjam, Bhubaneshwar, and Balangir.
- Invited Participant at 10th Convention of the All India Coordination Committee of Working Women, Puri, Odisha, 29 September - 1 October 2013
- Coordinator of sub-theme on 'Women in Urban India: Debating labour/employment' at *XIV National Conference on Women's Studies*, IAWS Guwahati, 4-7 February 2014.
- Prepared 2 proposals jointly with N. Neetha.
- Referee for book for Orient Black Swan and one chapter for Sage.

**Mary E. John**

- Chair, Session on Love and Oppression: Socialist/Feminist Perspectives, "New Cultures of the Left" Historical Materialism Conference, JNU, New Delhi, 3-5 April, 2013.
- Chair, Panel discussion on Feminist Perspectives: Engendering Anthropology, Sociology Seminar Series, South Asian University, New Delhi, 3 April, 2013.
- Co-chair, UGC Task Force Open Consultation on Issues pertaining to Safety of Women in Delhi University, UGC, New Delhi, 13 April, 2013.
- Co-chair, UGC Task Force Open Consultation on Issues pertaining to Safety of Women in Kerala Campuses, Mascot Hotel, Trivandrum, 22 April, 2013.
- Chair and discussant, Conference on Thinking through the Law, NMML, New Delhi, 25-27 April, 2013.
- Chair and discussant, Workshop on Gender, Labour and Employment, CWDS, 26-27 April, 2013.
- Chair, The Suryanelli Case Panel Discussion, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, 29 April, 2013.
- Public Meeting, Sexual Harassment, Gender Sensitisation and Institutional Accountability, JNUSU, 7 May, 2013.
- Invitee, High Level Committee on the Status of Women in India, Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, 30 July, 2013.
- Chair, Session on Integrated Science Education, Ford South Asia Conference on Higher Education, Centre for the Study of Culture and Society and the Ford Foundation, New Delhi, 5-7 August, 2013.
- UGC Task Force meetings, LSR, New Delhi, September 25, September 28, 9 October, 2013.
- Participant, National Consultation on Dalit Human Rights, Human Rights Law Network, Hisar, Haryana, 9-10 November, 2013.
- Invitee, Diamond Jubilee Function, University Grants Commission, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, 28 December, 2013.
- Chair and discussant, Conference on Economy, Reason, Affect: Anticolonial Sensibilities 1869-1950, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, 7-9 January, 2013.
- Causes and Consequences of the Declining Child Sex Ratio, presentation at Panel on Sex Ratios, XIV IAWS Conference, Guwahati, 3-7 February 2014.

- Chair, Sub theme on Caste, XIV IAWS Conference, Guwahati, 3-7 February 2014.
- Speaker, Release of the UGC Report Saksham, Measures for Ensuring Safety of Women and Gender Sensitisation on Campuses, UGC 2013, at Shastri Bhavan, 12 February 2014.
- Speaker, Panel discussion on Women's movements engagements with the law, Roundtable on Laws relating to Sexual Offences, National Law University Delhi and LASSNET, Delhi, 15-16 February 2014.
- Speaker, 'Religious rights and women's rights', at Meeting of Women's Organisations with the UN Rapporteur on the Rights of Religious Expression, YWCA, 25 February 2014.
- Speaker, Book Release Panel discussion, *Public Secrets of Law: Rape Trials in India* by Pratiksha Baxi, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance and Women's Studies Centre, JNU, 7 March 2014.

**Renu Addlakha**

- Panelist, Violence Against Women with Disabilities. Civil Society Interaction with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence Against Women: Causes and Consequences. New Delhi: UNICEF Office, 23 April 2013.
- Discussant, Round Table on Political Economy of Gender Based Violence: Directions for Feminist Action. New Delhi: India International Centre, 8 May 2013.
- Participant, Meeting of High Level Committee on the status of women in India. Ministry of Women and Child Development, Delhi, Central Social Welfare Board, 20 October 2013.
- Participant, 38th Annual Conference of Indian Psychiatric Society (Northern Zone) on violence against women: Mental Health Aspects. New Delhi: Palika Kendra, 26-27 October 2013.
- Introduction to Scientific method. Refresher Course in Women's Studies. Trivandrum: Academic Staff College. University of Kerala, 5-25 November 2013.
- Feminist Research Methodology. Refresher Course in Women's Studies. Trivandrum: Academic Staff College. University of Kerala, 5-25 November 2013.
- Gender and Disability. Refresher Course in Women's Studies. Trivandrum: Academic Staff College (University of Kerala): 5-25 November 2013.
- Expert, Evaluation of Research Proposals. New Delhi: Indian Council of Social Science Research, 25 November 2013.
- Co-ordinator for the compulsory M.Phil Course 'Research Methodology through Exemplary Works'

**Savitri Ray**

- FORCES Working Group Meet, at Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, Chankyapuri, New Delhi, November 28-29, 2013.
- FORCES Working Group Meeting, Christian Retreat Study Center, Dehradun, May 6-7, 2013
- Workshop on ECCD organised by uttarakhand FORCES at Hotel Surabhi, Chakrata road , Dehradun, June 13, 2014

**Resource Persons****Indu Agnihotri**

- Resource Person, A History of the Women's Movement and Present Challenges, Training Workshop for State Women's Commission members, NCW, Delhi.

**Indrani Mazumdar**

- Resource person for School of Gender and Development Studies IGNOU for course in Gender and Labour, M.A Programme in Gender and Development Studies.

**Mary E. John**

- Resource Person, National Consultation on Sexual Crimes in Higher Educational Institutions, NUEPA, New Delhi, 27 August, 2013.
- Resource Person, Roundtable on the role of research in promoting policy and action, the Supporting Inclusive Growth Program at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), and Global Development Network (GDN), IDRC, New Delhi, 19 December, 2013.
- Resource Person, Undergraduate Student Research Training Workshop on Declining Child Sex Ratio, Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule Centre for Women's Studies, Pune University, 18 January 2014.

**Neetha N.**

- Resource Person, Women and Economy and Women's Work for the Workshop on Research Methodology in Women's Studies, organised by Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Viswavidyalay, Wardha, 23-28 September 2013.
- Resource Person, 'Empirical Research Methods' Methods in Microfinance Research, V. V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida, 7-18th October, 2013.



- Resource Person, Gender Disaggregated Data: Methods and Techniques, Research Methods Programme on Work, Gender and Health from 3-14 March, 2014
- Refereed articles for Journals –Feminist Economics & Indian Journal of Gender Studies, and. Migration and Development
- Evaluated M.Phil/Ph D. Dissertations of Jamia Milia Islamia, JNU and Kannur University.
- Research Supervision – Supervising two M.Phil Students of CWDS/AUD M. Phil Programme on Women's and Gender Studies. –

**Renu Addlakha**

- Resource Person, Gender and Disability Issues in Rural Areas. Jagori Internship Programme on conceptual Challenges to Mainstream Gender Equality for Empowerment of Rural Poor Women. Delhi: Global Arts Village: 21-25 May 2013.
- Resource Person, Discussion on Crime and Safety in Delhi for Delhi Human Development Report. New Delhi: Institute of Human Development, 28 May 2013.
- Resource Person, Sexuality Issues off Visually Challenged Women. Annual Intensive Training Course for Blind Women Organised by the All India Confederation of the Blind, New Delhi, 9 June 2013.
- Resource Person, Disability, Gender and Sexuality: Introduction to key Concepts. Nirantar Workshop for NGO Professionals, Delhi: Global art Village, 18 July 2013.
- Resource Person, Gender and Disability. Gyan Vani radio channel. New Delhi: IGNOU, 18 August 2013.
- Resource Person, Introduction to Research. Mahatma Gandhi International University) and CWDS Collaboration Training on Research Methodology: Wardha (Maharashtra: School of Women's Studies: 23-28 September 2013.
- Resource Person, Basic Features of Feminist Research. Mahatma Gandhi International University) and CWDS Collaboration Training on Research Methodology: Wardha (Maharashtra: School of Women's Studies, 23-28 September 2013.
- Resource Person, Gender and Disability, Mahatma Gandhi International University and CWDS Collaboration Training on Research Methodology: Wardha (Maharashtra: School of Women's Studies: 23-28 September 2013.
- Resource Person, National Consultation on UNCRPD and status of women with disabilities in India. Women with Disabilities India Network. New Delhi: Indo-German Social Service Scheme (IGSS), 7 October 2013.

**Membership of Committees/Task Force & Other Advisory Functions****Indu Agnihotri**

- General Secretary and Member, EC, IAWS, (October 2011-2014).
- Member, Complaints Committee as per Supreme Guidelines on Sexual Harassment, Cabinet Secretariat (September 2008- March 2014).
- Member, Board of Studies of the Centre for Women's Studies, AMU, Aligarh, U.P. (2009).
- Member, Advisory Committee, Women's Studies Centre, Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak, Haryana, (2010).
- Member, Executive Committee, Indian School for Women's Studies and Development, New Delhi, (2001).
- Governing Council, Association of Indian Labour Historians, (AILH) (2000).
- Member, Joint Advisory Committee, Integrated Labour History Research Project, jointly run by the AILH and the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (2000).
- Member, Executive Committee (ICSSR Nominee), Institute of Economic Growth.
- Member, Academic Council, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi.

**Mary E. John**

- Member, Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE).
- Member, National Resource Group Meeting of Mahila Samakhya, Bangalore
- Member, Academic Council, Madras Institute of Development Studies.
- Member, Advisory Committee, ICSSR.
- Member, Executive Committee, Centre for Policy Research in Higher Education.
- Member, Governing Council, Institute of Chinese Studies.

**Neetha N.**

- Advisory Member, ISST/UNRISD project on Understanding the Processes of Gender Egalitarian Policy Change, ISST, New Delhi.
- Member, Expert Committee on "Gender and Labour" for the Course on Gender and Development Studies IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi.

- Member, Task Force on Valuation and Measurement of Women's Unpaid Household Work, Ministry of Women and Child, Government of India.
- Member, Task Force on Child Labour in Mining and Quarrying Commission on the Protection of Child Rights, Government of India.

**Renu Addlakha**

- Advisor, Ongoing Evaluation of Jagori Safe Campaign in Delhi. New Delhi. India International Centre, 3 May 2013.
- External Member, Indira Gandhi National Open University.



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